

THE AMERICAN

# LEGION

MAGAZINE

MARCH 1955

Shall We Pay Our  
COPS or ROBBERS?

PAGE 12

## WE NEED A GEOGRAPHY LESSON

BY NATIONAL COMMANDER  
SEABORN P. COLLINS



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IN  
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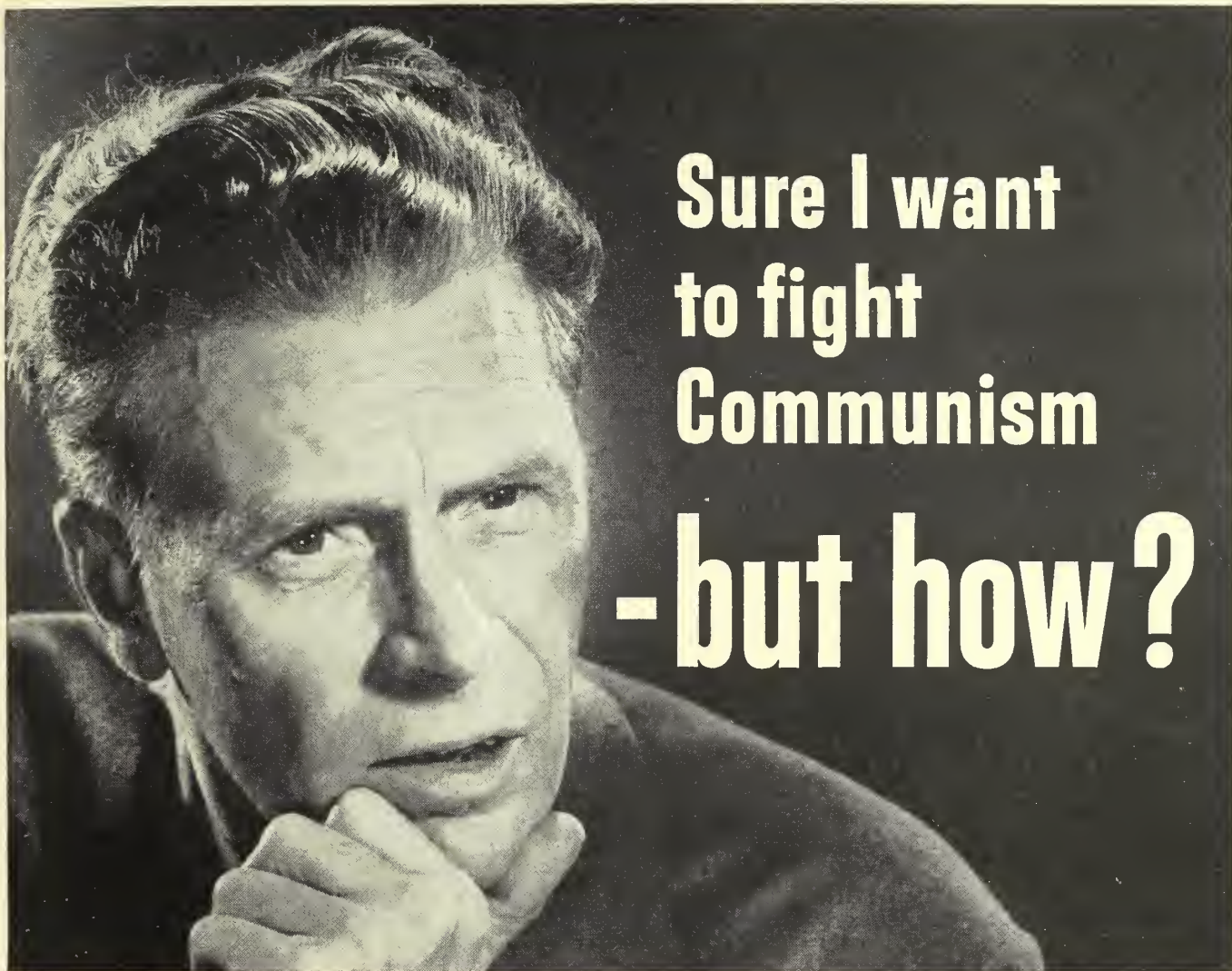
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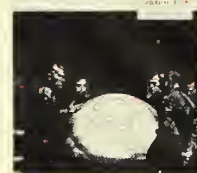
Vol. 58; No. 3, March 1955

THE AMERICAN

# LEGION

MAGAZINE

LEGION



Cover by Wally Richards

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# Sound Off!



Letters published in *Sound Off* do not necessarily represent the policy of The American Legion, but unsigned letters will not be considered. Name withheld if requested. Keep your letters short. Address: *Sound Off*, The American Legion Magazine, 720 Fifth Avenue, New York 19, N. Y.

## BOOSTING SMALL BUSINESS

Sir: I have just concluded reading the article "Does the Small Businessman Have a Chance?" in your December issue, and am prompted to write you because of my favorable reaction to Mr. Carl Rieser's discussion of the problems involved. As Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Small Business, it has been my observation that we must not underestimate the important role of small business in the continued development of a strong and healthy economy. While numerous aids are available to the small businessman, it has been my view that this is an area in which the Federal government can properly offer assistance, and it was with this objective in mind that I sponsored the original legislation establishing the Small Business Administration, the first agency ever created by the Federal government for the sole purpose of assisting small business enterprises. During its 15 months of existence, the Small Business Administration has made more than 900 loans totalling about \$50,000,000, and in 70% of these loans private banks joined the Small Business Administration in advancing the credit.

Edward J. Thye  
U.S. Senator, Minnesota  
Washington, D. C.

## BELATED CHRISTMAS STORY

Sir: Two Christmas Eves in the life of a Legionnaire: Jim Valentine, of New Jersey, joined the Canadian Flying Corps before the U.S.A. got into the first World War. He was shot down over Germany; taken to a hospital where his shattered leg was merely wrapped in newspapers. Gangrene set in. On the day the Armistice was signed every one of the hospital staff just vamoosed, and left some thirty mangled soldier-prisoners without food or care. But a young Catholic priest came to their rescue. Jim was flown to a London hospital where, during the next two years, his shattered left leg was operated upon time and again but with little hope that even his life could be saved. Came Christmas Eve, 1921, when the nurses asked Jim if he had any word for his family in the U.S.A., and little

expected he would live over the night. Replied Jim: "Just send them a Merry Christmas!" Came Christmas Eve, 1954, and Jim answered his last bugle call, the one he had outwitted thirty-three Christmas Eves before. But in all these thirty-three years Jim never would condemn those who had first shot him down, and then left him to die.

Gridley Adams  
New York City

## NOTE FROM BRAZIL

Sir: I was struck by the appropriateness and effectiveness of the article "Give the Speaker a Break" by Will A. Foster, in your November issue. Being a Rotarian as well as a Legionnaire, I brought the article to the attention of the São Paulo Rotary Club. The purpose of this letter is to felicitate Mr. Foster on his article as well as to ask you whether or not the Rotary Club of São Paulo can make use of all or any part of the article.

William S. Cunningham  
São Paulo, Brazil

▼ Permission was of course gladly granted.  
The Editors



## VACATION SUGGESTION

Sir: William E. Collins' "We Took to the Waterways," in your January issue, is my idea of an ideal vacation. What a thrill the three cruises must have been to Bill and Mike! Educational, too. I envy them and their dad when they cruised the upper Missouri from Great Falls, Montana, thru North Dakota. They saw country with which I am familiar as I homesteaded just north of the Missouri in both States. Comrade Collins states that in 1953 they cruised from Great Falls, Montana to Lewiston, N. D. via the upper Missouri River, 900 miles. There is a Lewiston in Idaho and one in Nebraska but neither one is on the Missouri, but none in either of the Dakotas. Must be an error. My sug-

gestion to the Collins trio is that they give some thought to exploring the mighty Columbia River and the 172 San Juan Islands in Puget Sound. They simply "ain't seen nuthin yet." Might even land a salmon or two.

Oscar Hovind  
Portland, Ore.

#### THANKS

Sir: I am writing in to say THANKS for "Let's Have the Truth!" by National Commander Seaborn P. Collins. Would that every American might read and ponder it well.

J. W. Lindsey  
Amarillo, Texas

#### ANSWERS KLINKERT

Sir: Referring to the letter in which Kenneth F. Klinkert calls on Catholics to resign from The American Legion, you should know by this time that folks just don't like to have anyone go gunnin' for their religion. If you must shoot-up religion Mister Klinkert, turn your guns on that religion known as communism. That's the doctrine to slug it out with—not with a religious faith the believers in which have so gloriously inscribed their names on the escutcheon of American liberty. Now Kenneth, before you again start winding up that intolerance think-box of yours, this I want you to understand: I am a Protestant; attend church regularly; am not in accord with certain dicta of the Catholic Church . . . but, such does not impose upon me any right or obligation to fight Catholicism in defense of Protestantism. I respect the other fellow's firmness in his Catholic faith and so far I have received like respect from my Catholic compatriots; I am a Free Mason, a 32nd degree member of Scottish Rite Masonry and a Noble of the Mystic Shrine; I have worked with, had dealings with and have rubbed elbows with, about every class of human being there is in America, and I tell you (or anyone) that, from my experience with Catholics, these anti-Catholic utterances you have tossed into the witches' caldron of hate, are the most baseless, dastardly and un-American contentions ever expounded. Shame on you, Sir, for saying "Catholicism doesn't care if democracy is safeguarded," for in so saying you blasphemous countless American dead of Catholic faith who gave their lives for democracy. When you say Catholicism, you say Catholics. Or, are you one of the forked-tongued gentry who mumbles—"Oh but I don't mean Admiral Callaghan and those other Catholics who died with him on the Cruiser *San Francisco*, in the battle of Guadalcanal in 1942"; "I don't mean all those lads of Catholic faith who now rest under white crosses all over the world"; "I don't mean the Unknown Soldier in Arlington, if by chance he was a Catholic"; "I haven't anything against

(Continued on page 43)



Advertisement

## From where I sit by Joe Marsh

### Going—Going— But Not Gone!

Saturday they got set to auction off "Sis" Brown's house for non-payment of taxes. Buck Stone was the auctioneer. Everybody who came to the auction knew that "Sis" is a war widow.

*When Buck began the bidding he said, "Anybody can bid. Just remember 'Sis' and those three nice kids that live here. Now then—who's going to start the bidding?"*

There was silence. "Sis," standing in back, got the point. She reached into her purse for just about all the money she had in the world. "I'll bid \$75," she said. "Sold," bellowed Buck and "Sis" had her home back.

*From where I sit, Buck Stone used a helping hand instead of a gavel. It was an example of real neighborliness. You know, even in something as small as respecting another's choice of beverage, a person can be neighborly. You might like buttermilk. I'm "sold" on a temperate glass of beer. And I can't "buy" anyone's telling me that I'm wrong.*

Joe Marsh

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## Editor's Corner



### AN APOLOGY

IN OUR February issue we published in "Sound Off" a letter from one Kenneth F. Klinkert, who expressed the opinion that one couldn't be a Legionnaire and a Catholic. "The two," he pronounced, "don't go together."

Most of our readers recognized Klinkert's letter for exactly what it was, bigotry at its asinine worst. Others felt that publication of the letter was an insult to members of the Catholic faith who belong to The American Legion.

To all those who were hurt or disturbed by the Klinkert letter we offer our sincere apologies.

Why, then, was it published? Unfortunately, we have had more than a few letters of this evil nature and our feeling was that the best way to stop this under-cover intolerance was to drag it into the open, to be seen in all its ugliness. This is the treatment that killed the Ku Klux Klan, and it is a form of treatment that no hate-mongering group can survive. And in that category we naturally place the communists whom we have also fought by exposing them.

It cannot be emphasized too strongly that The American Legion is absolutely and unequivocally opposed to the sort of thinking exemplified by the Klinkert letter, and since its inception has fought it with every weapon at its command.

We regret that in fighting this evil we were mistaken for our opponent. At the same time we want to thank the hundreds of good people, such as Lt. Col. Coons, whose letter appears on page 5, who have joined with us in opposing "Klinkertism."

### HUTCHINSISM

BY NOW everybody has heard about the Fund for the Republic. This is a project which was set up to investigate communism and anti-communism, with a hefty \$15,000,000 grant from the Ford Foundation.

The big boss of all this is Robert M. Hutchins, who by now should be an expert on investigations since he was on the receiving end of checkups when he was running the University of Chicago. Indeed this may explain why the F.F.T.R. is undertaking "a study of fear among teachers in American colleges and high schools."

However, while Dr. Hutchins dislikes investigators who scare teachers and maybe college presidents, he's an old hand himself in the investigating game. A decade or so ago he got into the busi-

ness (we almost said racket) with a grant of \$200,000 from Henry Luce, of Time, Inc., plus \$15,000 from the Encyclopedia Britannica, of which he was an officer. Hiring himself a covey of professors, he set up shop as "Commission on Freedom of the Press." The self-appointed "Commission," none of whom had any first-hand knowledge of newspapers, proceeded to look into same.

Their soundings completed, and the money all spent, they solemnly announced that things sure were a mess in the newspaper world, and unless somebody did something about it, such as putting the press under controls, the consequences would be horrible. That's the general idea. If you'd like to read the details of this hilarious and naive academic snoop-fest into journalism, you'll find them in Frank Hughes' illuminating *Prejudice and the Press*, published by Devin-Adair in 1950.

But now with \$15,000,000 in Ford money, instead of the miserable little \$215,000 he was able to scrounge previously, Hutchins is going all-out. One thing that seems to be of special interest to him is The American Legion, and he has crews of his journeymen investigators and opinion-sniffers checking up on us Legionnaires.

The reason may be highly personal. After a lapse of decades, the boss of the Fund suddenly took it into his head to join The American Legion. Why? The only clue was a cryptic bit of Hutchinsese to the effect that now he felt he could belong without losing his "self respect." So it's probably to keep our organization sweet and wholesome that Comrade Hutchins has set his operatives to looking things over. One of the major projects at the moment is a study of "attitudes" of Legionnaires on such things as communism, with more than a passing interest in such things as anti-communism.

But once again, we fear, Comrade Hutchins is wasting money because of his ingenuous approach. If our new comrade would just look up the by-laws of the organization or attend a few meetings of his Post, he'd soon learn he can express any kind of opinion or show any sort of attitude, and if he can enlist the support of enough of his fellow-Legionnaires he can get that opinion, through channels, adopted as a mandate of the organization. It is what is called the democratic process, which does not require the hiring of high priced poll-takers or press agents, or the routine of rounding up enough "facts" to support a foregone conclusion. All of which will turn up in congenial publications.

In short, Comrade Hutchins' method of making friends and influencing Legionnaires seems to be the least bit out of line, in that it is diametrically opposed to the democratic process. Our new comrade may consider this an affront to what he calls his "self respect" but we suggest that he start at the bottom and participate in the affairs of The American Legion as a working member. He'll get farther and get a lot more out of it than he will as a disburser of foundation funds. Also, his fellow-Legionnaires will like him better.

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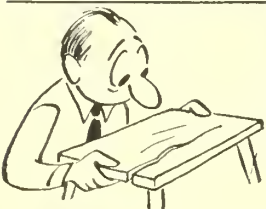
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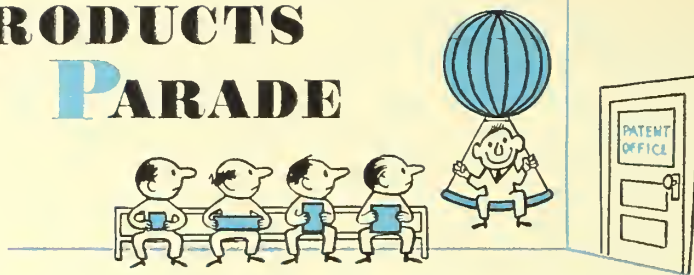
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# PRODUCTS PARADE



A sampling of items which are in process of development or are coming on the market. Mention of products in no way constitutes an endorsement of them, since in most cases they are described as represented by manufacturers.

### REVOLUTIONARY PENCIL

A revolutionary development in lead pencils has been announced by the Parker Pen Company of Janesville, Wis., which is bringing out a new writing instrument using liquid graphite instead of the solid graphite used in conventional pencils. The new pencil provides more than six times as much writing as the usual type, the point is unbreakable, and it requires no sharpening. It will be available in a price range covering customized luxury models as well as inexpensive types that, on the basis of "writing mileage," will cost no more than wooden lead pencils. The new Parker LLP, Liquid Lead Pencil, employs a new type of spherical writing tip approximating the size of a sharp pencil point, and it uses a liquified graphite in suspension. This does not smudge and it is readily erasable.

make any length desired. When installed, it forms a steel barrier which keeps shrub, hedge and vine roots from robbing flower beds of moisture and plant food. It can also be used for terracing and to surround flower beds or herb gardens where the soil must be kept abnormally acid or alkaline. Available at nursery, garden and hardware stores in boxes of 50 feet, it costs \$19.95, or approximately 89¢ for a two-foot section.



### HOME WORKSHOP ITEM

A home workshop vise modeled after the kind used in big industrial plants is being introduced by American Machine & Foundry Co., 261 Madison Ave., New York City 16. Said to be capable of solving any workholding problem in the home, garage or shop, the AMF Float-Lock Mighty 7 Vise is extremely versatile. It can be used as a drill press vise where it "floats" to any position on the drill press table and is locked instantly. It can also be used on a bench. It can be swung off the bench, swiveled, used on its side or end and angled from the vertical. Another use is as a bandsaw vise where it can be adjusted to hold tricky pieces safely. The price is \$9.98.



### CAR-SAVER

If you or someone in your family has a habit of smacking your car into your garage, the Tuthill Spring Co., 760 W. Polk St., Chicago 7, has something that will prove helpful. They are offering a Garage Spring Buffer consisting of three tempered steel springs and an adjustable steel crossbar which you fasten to the front of the garage to meet the bumper of your car. In kit form, the Protect-Ur-Wall set comes with all the necessary screws and bolts, and the price is \$9.95 through auto supply and hardware stores.

### ROOT-STOPPER

An underground fence which prevents roots from going where they are not wanted is being introduced by Keeler Steel, Inc., 909 Ninth St. SE, Minneapolis 14, Minn. Called Root Fence, the product is made of corrugated, galvanized steel sheets, 12 inches deep by two feet in length. These sections lock together to

### OUTDOOR BURNER DELUXE

A new kind of yard burner whose construction makes it unusually long-lived will be available in time for your spring work and play outdoors. Called the Blitz-Burner, it is a mobile unit, scientifically designed for efficient collection, storage and disposal of all burnable household, lawn and garden waste. It is fully enclosed so the contents will burn in all kinds of weather and it is mounted on rubber-tired wheels so it can be rolled up to the kitchen door, piles of leaves, etc. Available from Montmower Distributing Co., Keeler Building, Grand Rapids, Mich., it carries a price tag of \$29.95.

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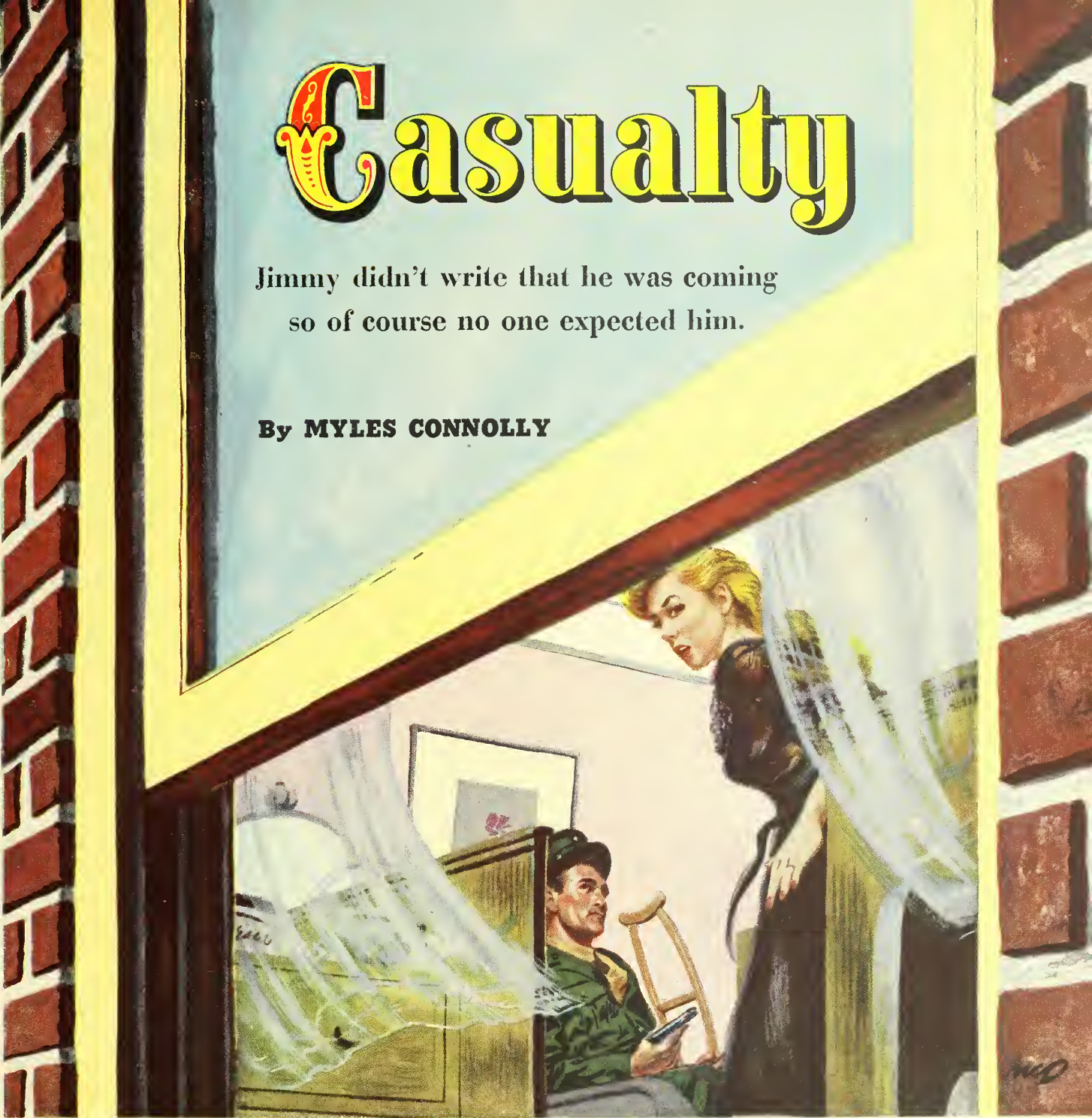
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# Casualty

Jimmy didn't write that he was coming  
so of course no one expected him.

By MYLES CONNOLLY



He pointed the automatic at the chair across the room and she sat down.

THE YOUNG, SANDY-HAIRED Marine sat in a deep chair in the hotel lobby, a morning newspaper open in his hands, but his eyes were not on the newspaper. His eyes were on the door to the florist's shop beside the porter's desk across the lobby. His face was drawn and his gaze tensely concentrated on the door to the florist's shop. Two rows of service ribbons were stretched across the left side of the blouse of his uniform which was slightly rumpled. His left leg was severed close to the knee. Two crutches were leaned against the

back and inside of the arms of the chair.

A stout, gray-haired man in a black alpaca jacket came out of the florist's shop. He carried a spray of long-stemmed red roses wrapped in green wax paper. He walked across the lobby to the bell captain's desk. The Marine lowered his paper and sat up in his chair. He did not take his eyes off the man from the florist's shop.

"For Mrs. Barney Bruno," the gray-haired man said to the bell captain.

The gray-haired man turned and walked toward the florist's shop. The

bell captain picked up his desk telephone.

The Marine had got to his feet and was standing on his crutches. He was tall, lean when he stood up. He carefully watched the bell captain. He was close enough to hear his voice.

"Mrs. Barney Bruno." The bell captain toyed with the flowers while he waited for the operator to connect him. "Mrs. Bruno? We have flowers here for you. Shall I send them up? Yes'm. 614. Yes'm."

The bell captain tapped a little bell  
(Continued on page 49)



# We need a GEOGRAPHY LESSON

For reasons unknown to you, your community may rank high in the plans of red saboteurs and Soviet militarists.

**A**MERICA HAS PROBABLY fought its last exclusively foreign war. If there is to be a next war, its devastation will be felt on both American and foreign soil. It will be a war in which every community, large or small, will be in the shooting range. It will be a war in which there will be no bystanders.

Only the other day, Secretary of the Air Force Harold E. Talbot warned us that we could expect, in a few years, that both Russia and the United States will have guided missiles capable of bombing each other, with a fair degree of accuracy, from home bases.

What he did not say was that Washington expects, probably within the next ten years, that both the United States and Russia will have intercontinental missiles which can cross the Atlantic or Pacific in from 15 to 30 minutes, at speeds of 4,000 miles an hour. Against such supersonic speeds, no jet interceptor could protect our country. Before this staggering prospect, the accustomed distinction between the foreign front and the home front disappears and becomes meaningless. Modern air speeds have telescoped the world into a single community. In that community there are no safety zones.

What does this do to our old geography?

One of the confusing things in our thinking about national defense is that our heads are stuffed with largely obsolete geographic images. In our minds is the picture of the old familiar world of our

Some highly strategic plants can be found today in pastoral settings.





## By SEABORN P. COLLINS

NATIONAL COMMANDER,  
THE AMERICAN LEGION

school geographies. The fact that that world has almost completely disappeared under the impact of modern air communication is something which has only partially penetrated most American minds.

There was something stable and predictable about that world which is now gone from the earth in this new age of air speeds.

The old geographical world was one in which nations stood in a fixed pattern of relationships with one another, based upon distance and accessibility. In that world there were fortunate and unfortunate nations. The fortunate nations were those which were shielded from aggression by oceans, or impassable mountains, or hinterlands of wilderness or marshes. The unfortunate nations were those which lived behind indefensible national frontiers.

Spain was a striking example of a fortunate nation, under the old geography. She was shielded from enemy approach by the frowning Pyrenees on one side, and ocean waters on the other. Thanks to these natural barriers, Spain was able to sit out both World Wars, while the storm of battle was raging about it. It was a natural fortress.

Great Britain was such a fortunate nation, with a twenty-mile border of treacherous Channel seas. No invader, from Philip II to Hitler, has been able

to conquer her. She was protected by her inaccessibility.

But the United States was the glittering example of a nation which had become great by geography. We built ourselves from our weak Colonial beginnings behind 3,000 miles of Atlantic water and 7,000 miles of the Pacific. We could pick and choose in our foreign commitments because no nation in the world could successfully bomb or invade us. We have been geographically isolated for so long that many of us have developed the fixed idea that we are unconquerable.

Let us hope that this is right. But fact-facing men and women must now recognize that the world in which America found security through distance ended at Hiroshima. To blind ourselves to this fact is to invite catastrophe.

Only a few weeks ago, the public was electrified by the announcement that regular three-stop commercial service had been inaugurated by the Scandinavian Airlines between Copenhagen and Los Angeles, across the North Pole. The distance is 5,800 miles. The time of the run is just 27 hours and 10 minutes.

This is a news flash out of fableland. Many people are still living who remember vividly when the North Pole was first sighted by the Peary Expedition. At that time, Peary's achievement had the color of the miraculous. Now we are to have routine trans-Pole schedules, with passengers spanning Europe and America in a single day. Such a development upsets all our habitized ideas about geography.

The plain fact is that air speeds have now made all our accepted ideas of distance meaningless. The world of our old geography was a grid of fixed distance relationships. As speed annihilates distance, the relationships have become foreshortened and scrambled.

Thus, in former years we have habitually thought of England as a country roughly five days away from us by fast ocean liner. When transatlantic air transportation came, the time distance was reduced to 24 hours. What this actually meant was that England had become five times nearer to us than before. Today, it would be possible for

De Havilland 106 Comets, with their speed of 500 m.p.h., to cut this time factor down to six hours. This would mean an England 20 times nearer to us than in the old geography.

Such a fact is terrifying in its defense implications.

Let us apply the same caliper to Russia. Across the North Pole route, Murmansk, Russia, is only 3,482 miles from New York. If Malenkov possesses jets comparable in maximum speed to our Stratojet B-47s (600 m.p.h.), this means that his northernmost airfields are less than 7 hours distant from New York. If we compare this with the old rail transportation of our schoolday geographies, it means that Russia is now as near to New York as the Buffalo of a few years ago. Technology has crumpled the distant places of the earth into overnight proximity.

What does all this mean?

It means that America's traditional apartness from Europe is now as extinct as the dodo or the great auk. It means that defense by distance is an historical memory. The United States has lived into an age when we are perilously accessible to any hostile nation which is willing to take the risk of a sneak attack. We are no longer in an observation post; we are in the cockpit. Our only safety lies in our readiness to spring into instantaneous defense.

The end of America's geographic detachment from the other hemisphere gives heightened importance to two domestic programs which The American Legion is earnestly supporting. These are (1) civil defense and (2) the alerting of each community to the dangers of subversive activity.

Civil Defense, always a must program in our over-all preparedness picture, takes on enhanced importance as we move further into the age of supersonic speeds.

Hitherto, Civil Defense has played a sort of stepchild role in our rearming effort. It has sat at the foot of the national defense council table. At appropriations time, when cuts are mandatory, it has always been a convenient place for the lopping-off of defense dollars. Worse, it has failed to capture the imagination of the American people,

(Continued on page 52)



# ARE SPECTATOR SPORTS

## *“NO!”*

says **ARTHUR DALEY,**

who points to the millions who jam the turnstiles at racetracks, ball parks, etc.



**A**LARMING INDEED is one unmistakable trend in American sports. We've become a nation of viewers instead of doers. The quick and easy money of the war years produced spectators in unprecedented numbers and did little or nothing to produce participants. Worse still, there's been no appreciable change in habits since.

Uncle Mike Jacobs, the old ticket scalper who became head of the professional boxing empire, clicked his store teeth in front of Madison Square Garden one night about a decade ago and rubbed his hands in glee.

"Never seen nuthin' like it," he said. "All yuh gotta do is open a box office and a guy claps his money down. 'Gimme two tickets,' he sez. Then he asts, 'What's goin' on inside?'"

The sports-loving public has become more discriminating in recent years and shops more carefully. But paying crowds everywhere are still larger than they were in the prewar era and the unpaying spectators almost are beyond estimation. In the old days the only non-payers were the handful who crashed the gate or climbed the fence. Today they include millions and millions and millions of television viewers.

Let's skip the video free-loaders for the moment and concentrate on the guys and dolls who spin the turnstiles. Just about a year ago, Triangle Publications, which prints the turf dailies, made a rather exhaustive survey of attendance at various sports.

Jubilantly it proclaimed that horse racing was the No. 1 spectator sport with 49,747,992 customers during 1953. Attendance figures for major and minor league baseball amounted to 37,680,686. Football drew 15,280,939. Those are the main ones and there's no point in flogging a dead horse by bringing in the lesser sports. This reporter is quite content to string along with the Big Three.

Racing of thoroughbreds and trotters slipped ever so slightly last year in spectator appeal. But it was only a third of one percent—a mere .37 percent if you insist on the exact count—and the turf therefore can be considered as holding its own. Perhaps a later and more complete survey will indicate even a slight gain.

However, major league baseball rose from 14,383,797 in 1953 to 15,945,167 spectators in 1954. The minors continued

their downhill glide with a little less than 20,000,000.

College football actually showed a slight improvement in attendance at 13,000,000 with the professionals again breaking records, finishing up around the two-and-a-quarter-million mark.

It's horse racing, however, which offers the most crushing argument. *The American Racing Manual* lists 1,414 jockeys—honest Injun, I didn't think there were that many myself—of varying degrees of ability. But they are the only participants or athletes in an entire sport which draws almost fifty million spectators.

Although it's probably safe to assume that almost all baseball fans have played baseball at one time or another—hey, why am I mentioning the other fellow's argument—that participation factor doesn't apply to football. The National Collegiate A.A. made a survey of spectators at college games and produced this illuminating set of statistics: Only 21 percent of them had ever played football at any time in their lives.

If the percentages were to be produced on boxing or wrestling, they'd approach zero. Except in Canada, this almost would hold true for hockey. Admittedly though, basketball, tennis and golf would rank fairly high. Yet if you were to take the picture as a whole, the spectators outnumber the participants by a fantastic margin. And it's getting worse.

I've talked to executives who are high in the councils of baseball, golf, tennis and most other sports and they all are deploring the way sources of supply are shrinking for the future. As cities grow and real estate become more valuable, play space is inclined to disappear.

By way of complicating things, the pace of modern living has changed habits. Kids who once played baseball on the streets or open lots are watching *Howdy-Doody* on television. Easy living has robbed the new generation of the old pioneer spirit so that kids don't have to make and take their fun in sports any more. Television dumps it into their laps at home.

Dat ol' debbil, television, makes sports fans but it does not make sports participants to any appreciable degree. About all that video accomplishes—and this is what alarms athletic officials the country over — (Continued on page 58)

# ON THE WAY OUT?...



## “YES!”

says **ARCH WARD,**

who says Art's figures don't tell the complete story, and who supplies statistics of his own.

**M**ORE THAN 40,000,000 fans had 50-yard-line seats around their TV sets last August 13, when the Detroit Lions kicked off to the Collegians in renewal of the All-Star football game we have presented annually since 1934.

Another 94,470—many of whom paid \$10 per head—were packed in Chicago's Soldiers' Field as firsthand witnesses to this gridiron drama. Earlier in the day, scores had besought us to accept their money for tickets to *next* August's game.

Then and there, we had definitely convincing evidence that heaven must love the sports fan, because there are so many of 'em!

Our bifocals have scanned similar evidence often, of course. It was confidence in spectator support that motivated our founding the All-Star baseball game (1933) and the International Golden Gloves boxing matches (1931). Both have become fixtures on the sport calendar, thanks to the money John and Mary Fan slap down for tickets.

But these are modern, prosperous times. And John and Mary, with more leisure than grandpappy and grandmammy, are no longer content merely to be sport viewers. So, in increasing numbers, spending increasing millions, they are becoming participants.

This fast-growing participant army (which may outnumber Ripley's fabled marching Chinese), has sporting goods dealers beaming with smiles bigger than any Promoter Mike Jacobs displayed during his most lush seasons at the box office. Unlike Uncle Mike, these dealers refrain from rubbing hands gleefully; they're too busy sorting the \$100 bills from the \$10's.

The deluge of greenbacks in the sporting goods temples comes partially from the record 14,832,779 who peeled \$40,551,316 off their bankrolls for hunting licenses in the fiscal year of 1953, most recent period for which Department of Interior reports are available. This was 930,351 more than the record number purchasing licenses the previous year. So there was almost a million increase in our nimrod population in 52 weeks.

Department of Interior figures also provide Exhibit B in The Case of the Participant Sportsman. The fiscal year of 1953 found 17,652,478 (more than a half-million over the preceding 12-month period) carrying fishing licenses. Cost

for these admission tickets to the lakes and streams was \$35,602,903.

Of course, all who answer the angling call (and it costs Americans more than one billion dollars a year to make this answer) do not need licenses. Some farmers, veterans, and youngsters are exempt. There are many special waters where the fisherman needs no license to drop his line. When you include these, says the Sport Fishing Institute of Washington, D. C., President Eisenhower is only one of 25,000,000 matching wits against finny foes.

But let's stick to that 17,652,478 who bought licenses. No, let's not. Let's even deduct the 2,518,396 non-resident licenses included in our total, since it must be figured that each non-resident licensee also toted a permit from his own State. A bit of mental calisthenics then shows us that about 15,134,082 *individual* Americans held angler's union cards during this particular 12-month span.

At first glance this 15-million-plus appears unimpressive in comparison to the 49,747,992 who shoved \$2 bills through race track betting windows. But consider that statistics and girdles often wrap up figures in deceptive packages. Remember that all spectator sport attendance totals include thousands upon thousands of repeat customers!

This means that if Clocker Tom goes to watch the ponies run every afternoon during a 60-day meeting, they count him in the attendance not once, but *sixty times*.

Attendance figures merely prove that an undetermined number of spectators, including many repeats, made nearly 50,000,000 visits to the thoroughbred plants. But how many visits do you think our 15,134,082 individual fishermen made to their favorite waters within a year. You can safely bet that collectively they trotted to the ol' fishin' hole more than 50,000,000 times. And a fishing jaunt may last from a day to the full time of the angler's vacation period. A safari to the races generally requires no more than five hours unless you have to walk home.

We knew Uncle Mike Jacobs well enough to believe that the old master of high promotional finance would have been shocked by the amount of cash that sportsmen now pay just for spinning tackle. The fan who hollered robbery when Uncle Mike asked \$30-\$40-\$50 for choice boxing tickets now speedily sends his check for similar (*Continued on page 59*)

# Shall we pay our COPS

Because most communities pinch pennies when it comes to police protection, John Q. Citizen has to pay an estimated \$20,000,000,000 a year.

By JACK DENTON SCOTT

**N**OT LONG AGO there was an odd accident in one of our eastern States.

A police officer fell asleep at the wheel of his patrol car and crashed into a tree. No motorist was involved and other than a wrenched shoulder and a badly battered car, the policeman suffered no injury. Investigation brought out these facts: He had fallen asleep because he was overcome by fatigue, having slept only two hours the night before. He held two jobs, that of policeman during the day, and relief truck driver for several hours of the night. With a wife and three children to support, his salary as a member of the police force just wasn't enough to make ends meet.

At Sacramento, California, fifteen policemen taking a much-needed special

there was only one policeman for the protection of the community's residents!

The appalling fact is that we aren't doing much better as a nation. Today we average 1.8 policemen for each 1,000 inhabitants of our country. The basic minimum for effective policing is two policemen for 1,000 people, and the pitifully few cities which enjoy a low crime rate have three policemen per 1,000 population.

Police officials interviewed are worried about the situation. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, faced up to the problem squarely with these words:

"Preliminary figures indicate that crime and those who profit from it are prospering. While we cannot blame any single cause for the higher rate of crimi-



nation. Manpower was spread too thinly and the criminal element moved in wherever a gap appeared. Attempts to recruit sufficient officers to combat

Aside from the money, the hours put in by a policeman make family life tough.



Commissioner Adams put enough cops in Harlem, and crime dropped 50 percent.

night course at the police academy were hurriedly called back to work. Their short absence from beats and patrol cars caused a tremendous upswing in armed robbery and other crimes.

In a New England town, population 6,500, teen-age vandals struck for the fourth time during one week, burning and smashing town property, slashing the tires of parked cars and stealing accessories from locked gas stations and garages. State police, called in to put a halt to the hoodlums, discovered that

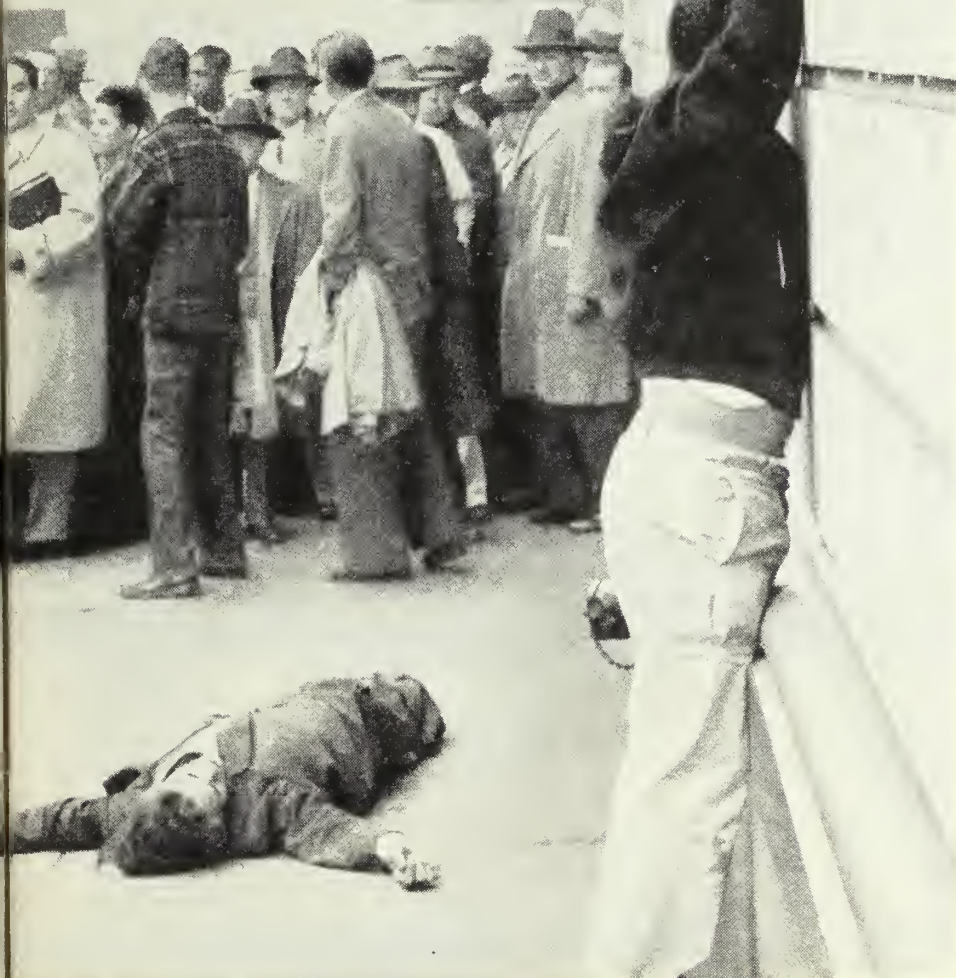
nal offenses, I am convinced that there is a distinct relationship between this development and the number of police officers available to combat it.

"One factor which undoubtedly contributes to the prosperity of the criminal element is a police scale too low to maintain law enforcement forces at full strength. An inadequate number of personnel was one of the most common conditions last year in police agencies of various types and sizes across the

PHOTOS BY DONATO LEO



# OR ROBBERS?



One of New York's "finest," Patrolman John M. Quinn, thus ended a holdup.

crime effectively were often unsuccessful because the salary offered was too low to draw the quantity and quality of personnel needed.

"Unwillingness to provide proper remuneration for the intelligence and

effort required in the performance of modern police duties is a form of cut-rate law enforcement and it will not work. The logical result is a bigger crime bill in the form of murders, robberies and the manifold ways in which crime can be expensive. To pay the price in this fashion rather than in adequate salaries for police officers makes an extremely poor bargain . . ."

That poor bargain reads like this: Crime costs us \$20 billion every year. It affects you, the average citizen, this way: Each year every American family pays \$495 for crime. For every dollar spent on education, \$1.82 goes to the criminal; for each dollar you drop in the collection at church, you must ante up \$10 for crime.

And crime of every sort is on the rise. Every 13.8 seconds there is a major crime in the United States. The crime clock ticks off a murder every 40.9 minutes, a rape every 29.8 minutes, an aggravated assault every 5.7 minutes.

In the first six months of 1954, the crime rate soared 8.5 percent over a like period in 1953. By the end of June 1,136,140 crimes had been committed. Nearly all major cities were suffering from the wave, but New York's totals reached a new high in all categories. Chicago ranked second in murder, with Philadelphia third, Detroit fourth, and Houston fifth.

Civic leaders in various communities have been asking the question: "If the simple fact that inadequate salaries for our police is a major cause of this crime wave, why can't the situation be easily adjusted in the cities themselves?"

Leroy E. Wike, once a police chief, now executive secretary of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, an organization which works to raise the standards for police recruits and provide tenure of appointment divorced from politics, answers by sketching an incident:

"The mayor and council are in monthly session. It's an important meeting with the fiscal budget of city expenditures up for approval.

"In this city there are 160 men on the police force. Up for vote is a proposal to grant a 10 percent increase in salary to the police force. The police salary appropriation already runs to six

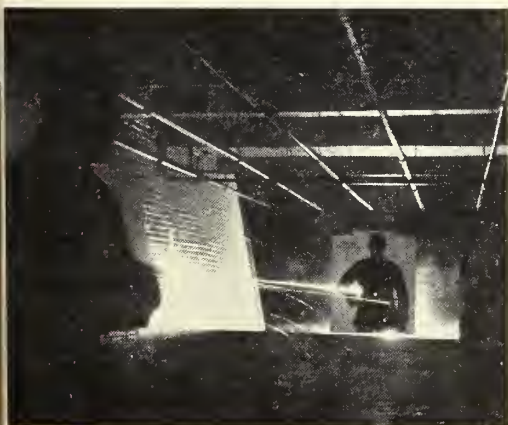


Policemen are expected to lead exemplary lives and all but a very few do.

figures. Add 10 percent to that and it's necessary to increase the tax rate, float a municipal bond issue, or impose a sales tax.

"The council meeting has been a long one—many groups have appeared protesting the salary increase because no one wants to pay more taxes. A delegation of policemen favors the increase,

*(Continued on page 44)*



In many communities, the policeman even has to pay for the ammunition he uses.



# THOSE CRAZY MIXED-UP DOGS

Start of a coon-dog heat. Blood lines don't count but speed and nose do. Prize could be \$500.

Strangers to the American Kennel Club are the non-pedigreed dogs that provide sport as coon hunters, and some are worth their weight in gold.

**By HENRY P. DAVIS**

**Y**OUNGSTERS HAVE keen eyes and ears and this one was no exception. "Here they come," he yelled, and the banter of the crowd stopped as if a huge hand had been suddenly placed across its collective mouth.

Through the trees and into the opening they raced, a strung-out group of keyed-up coon-dogs hot on the fresh laid track. They were the finalists in the fifth annual Doughboy Derby, the largest coon-dog field trial of the 1954 season sponsored by Emmet Mannix Post No. 345, The American Legion, at Fort Recovery, Ohio.

Leading the pack by a fair margin but hard pressed for the front was a rugged, medium-eared black-and-tan hound named Smart Choice, owned by Lew Persch of Mercer, Pa. Choice barreled across the "line" and headed for the tree, ears aflyin', his mighty voice making the welkin ring with every jump. In the vernacular of the sport, "he came in treeing," winning both tree and line purses and putting 500 new dollars into his owner's pocket. Second to open at the tree was Darkie, another

black-and-tan, winning \$200 for his owner, Harlow Dillon of Springfield, Ohio, while a white-and-tan spotted dog named West Virginia Spot accounted for the remaining \$200 of the \$900 final by being second across the line. Spot is owned by William Lloyd of Columbus, Ohio.

Nine hundred dollars might seem like a pretty good chunk of cash to dish out to the winners of a mile-and-a-half dog race. But this was not just another event in the sport of coon-dog field trials that is growing so rapidly in popularity throughout the country. This was the Doughboy Derby, an established institution in the sport and the big financial backlog behind the veterans' rehabilitation, patriotic and civic activities of Emmet Mannix Post. The three-day classic always attracts a large entry, and, in the program last November 6-8, 625 dogs from more than a dozen States competed for the \$3,225 prize money, probably the largest entry recorded in the history of the sport. The races were run from daylight to dark on all three days, the big program consisting of 61 regular heats, 4 post-entry heats, one heat for registered coon hounds only,



Coon scent is dragged over the track between races.

21 semi-final heats and 3 final heats.

Maybe you're wondering what a coon-dog field trial is really like and how it is operated. This is a contest between dogs that have been specially trained to run a track, laid by coon scent, as fast as they can and bark up the tree in which a captive coon re-



This dog going up after Mr. Coon doesn't know he's also hitting the jackpot for his owner.

poses at the track's end. These are not necessarily full-blooded hounds; in fact the vast majority of them are cross-breeds with hound background. Some are part greyhound, some part farm shepherd, while in others even the combined talents of a canine psychologist and a Philadelphia lawyer would be unable to solve the mystery of ancestry. The length of the track varies with different trials and ranges from a mile to a mile and a half. A good field trial coon-dog, tending strictly to his training, will negotiate it in around 7 or 8 minutes, depending on the sparseness or heaviness of the cover. Anything can happen in an individual race and quite often some dogs become distracted by something and fail to come in to the finish within the time limit. Occasionally there will be a heat in which the dogs which are known to be good treers come in so "pumped" from the strain of the race that they do not have enough energy or inclination left to

bark "treed." Some dogs seem to have no inclination to bark treed at any time and those of this known disposition are sold in the auction pool for "line only." Almost every size, color and length of coat is seen at a coon-dog field trial and, as speed is highly important, greyhound blood is quite evident in many of the contestants. The most essential characteristic, however, is a strong competitive spirit, for through it many a small, chunky dog has won out over his racier opponents.

Good field trial coon-dogs, regardless of breeding, come rather high. Prices upwards of \$1,000 are not uncommon and some dogs have sold for \$3,000 and over.

In the Doughboy Derby the entry fee for each dog is \$5. The dogs are entered by name, and each dog is given a number which is painted on each of his sides for quick identification purposes. They are then grouped into "heats," ten dogs usually making up a "heat." The auction on the first heat is then held, the chances of each dog to win tree and line honors being offered the highest bidder. This auction money goes into a separate pool and is divided among the lucky bidders at the end of each heat.

The Doughboy Derby management pays out \$25 in heat money to the owners of the dogs that win first tree, first line and second line in each heat. After the auction the dogs are trucked to the starting point. In the meantime a track has been laid by dragging a coon-scent

stick through typical cover over a 1½-mile course to a tree in a small clearing. A captive or tame coon has been placed in a cage and hoisted up into the branches of this tree and placed in such position that it can be easily seen by the competing dogs as they come up to the tree. Out in front of the tree some 100 yards, and about 50 yards across the track is an imaginary "line." At a given signal the dogs are loosed at the starting point and the first one to cross this line wins first line money, the second across wins second line money and the first to bark at the tree wins the tree money. Often in the finals, and sometimes in each heat, the money is so divided that the second dog to bark at the tree also wins a cash purse.

Immediately after each group starts its race, the track layers begin their long trek laying another track over the same course to the tree. And by the time this track is laid, the auction on the next heat is about finished and another heat is ready to go. It is a fast-moving sport and has to be so, for interest in this field activity is rapidly increasing and the entries are usually large. In fact, no other canine field sport can compare with coon-dog field trials in point of entries.

The winners in each heat automatically qualify for the semi-finals or, in the case of small entries, the finals. Winners in the semi-finals, of course, go into the finals, where the largest purses are guaranteed.

Ohio seems to be the center of activity for this sport, although it has spread to many other States. Last Labor Day week four large Ohio trials attracted more than 2,000 coon-dog entries, and probably 20,000 spectators paid admission to see the races. These trials were the famous Leafy Oak near Bucyrus; the Kenton Coon Chase near Kenton; Stu Planck's trial near Columbus and the World's Championship near Wilmington. As the entry fees were larger than those at the Doughboy Derby, approximately \$20,000 was paid out in cash prizes.

The Doughboy Derby management has always been outstandingly generous  
(Continued on page 57)

Grand Final Winners Harlow Dillon of Springfield, Ohio, with Darkie, Lew Persch of Mercer, Pa., with Smart Choice and William Lloyd of Columbus, Ohio, with West Virginia Spot. Smart Choice won \$500 for 1st line and 1st tree.



# Will they clean up the

Spurred by public indignation, the Comics Magazine Association of America has been formed to bring into line the "illiterature" which has glorified brutality and sadism.

**T**HE COMIC BOOK is a misnomer. It is a magazine rather than a book, and often it is far from funny. Until the crime-horror-terror magazine, no "literature" for children was made up of such concentrated violence, brutality, sadism, cannibalism, and crime, all vividly pictured in color. Unlike dime novels or fairy tales, comic books appeal to those who cannot read. They reach children by the millions.

Comic books bear only a superficial resemblance to the comic strips in newspapers; even when the same characters and settings are found, the *crime* comic book, at least, is much stronger meat than the newspaper strip. The "horrors" usually do not appear in newspapers. The comic strip must pass the editorial standards of the individual newspapers, and not infrequently, a comic strip is cut from a newspaper by the editors because of its excessive brutality or its unacceptable treatment of sex. There has been no comparable outside restraint on the content of comic books. Even members of the comics-magazine industry admit that some of its products have gone far beyond the bounds of good taste and decency.

Estimates vary as to the number of comic books sold in the United States. Last year, testimony offered before the Senate Subcommittee to Investigate Juvenile Delinquency placed the number at between 75,000,000 and 100,000,000 copies a month. Recently, the newly-formed Comics Magazine Association of America, Inc., placed the figure at 60,000,000. This sharp decline may have resulted from the storms of protest that were aroused by the abuses that brought the Association into being.

Following in the footsteps of the movies, radio, and television, the comics magazine industry has started a sweeping program of self regulation.\*

*\*For more on this, see News Section, in center of this issue.*

The Comics Magazine Association administers a strict new code to the text and pictures of a large proportion of comic magazines prior to publication.

This effort of the industry to clean its own house is applauded by some of its most outspoken critics—including The American Legion—who hate governmental censorship as much as they do filth. Let's give the new broom a chance. At the same time, let's keep a careful watch on the comic books on the newsstands to see that the dirt is swept out rather than hidden under the rug.

The problem of salacious printed matter is not confined to comic books. Resolutions at recent American Legion conventions, correctly, have been directed against *all* obscene literature. In many places easily accessible to children, an unsavory assortment of girlie books, sensational sex manuals, picture and pocket books of unbelievable filth is to be found. The prices range from a quarter to a dollar or so, easily within the buying power of teen-agers and younger children.

Unless you have the appearance of a sweet grandmother or a pillar of the church, take one of the sexiest girlie books to the clerk and ask him for something a little hotter. From under the counter may come some of the new—but age-old—pornography in pictures or comic-book form. This is true particularly in the business districts of cities and in some towns not so large.

The production and distribution of salacious literature is a fly-by-night business comparable to bootlegging. Not only titles but companies are active for a while and then disappear. Recently, the newspapers described the activities of a wealthy man who used his country estate for the production of "art" pic-

ture books and his limousine to deliver them to metropolitan outlets.

The foreign distribution of salacious literature and horrible crime comic books on a vast scale is doing much to give the United States a black eye throughout the world. Canada has adopted legislation designed to prevent the distribution of such printed matter in that country. Public indignation in Great Britain against U. S. "horror" comics has found expression in the House of Commons.

The advertisements in comic books and other objectionable magazines provide another means for reaching children with unsuitable printed material. Much of the advertising in these magazines is of the mail-order type. The advertising itself has been bad enough: sensational pictures playing on the fears



If the newsdealer doesn't "cooperate," his next shipment may not have fast-moving items.

of adolescent boys and girls that their bodies may not develop properly and offering dubious remedies; ads for bull whips, guns, switch-blade knives; for questionable drugs and devices for los-

# Comic Books?

By RUTH A. INGLIS



Millions of American youngsters devour this kind of reading matter.

ing weight, gaining weight, developing muscles, removing pimples; for books exploiting the adolescent's natural curiosity about sex.

The names and addresses of boys and girls secured by means of these advertisements have been sold to other advertisers of even less desirable products. This is a way of using the United States mails to circumvent any clean-up campaign brought about by community pressures. Sending pornographic material through the mails is, of course, subject to Federal prosecution. The postal laws, however, do not provide a very fine screen for pornography, and there is pressure in Congress to enact legislation which will close the mails to obviously obscene matter. Senator Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin has been working with postal authorities to prepare more adequate laws.

Aside from the advertising, public protests against comic books have been centered mainly on stories of violence, crime, sadism, sex, and horror. Esti-

mates vary, but in recent years comics of this kind probably have comprised from one-quarter to one-third of the total new comic books sold. This amounts to at least 15 to 25 million a month. The readership, however, is far greater because of the sale and trading of old comic books not only in second-hand magazine stores but among children themselves. Parental and civic disgust with the brutal types of comic books has increased their trading value among children. Parents may not realize the morbid appeal which the sadistic type of comics has for their children. Youngsters who feel guilty about reading them have become adept at hiding them from their parents. A Disney book may be at the top of the pile, but knowing parents will take a look at the middle or bottom numbers.

A study of the content of comic books conducted last year at the University of Washington in Seattle gave a quantitative analysis of the violence in comic books. Nearly one-sixth of

44,653 pictures in 351 different comic books available on the stands during a three-month period showed one of the following: "threatening with weapons, striking with weapons or the body, torturing, killing, animals attacking or mangling people, people shown injured, dying or dead." This included the animal, romantic, and humorous comics usually not considered harmful.

A normally avid reader of run-of-the-mill comic books, say sixteen years of age, must have been exposed to an appalling amount of sheer physical violence during his formative years from this one source alone. His diet of violence, of course, was undoubtedly supplemented with that in the movies, radio, and, in recent years, television. That some young people should themselves turn to physical violence and thus swell the growing number of juvenile delinquents is hardly surprising.



Feeling responsible for what they sell, members of the Des Moines, Iowa, Pharmacists Association refused to deal in objectionable comics. Shown is Harold D. Bean, a member.

The Seattle study reveals that killing was glorified by some comic books. The leading male character in one crime comic says: "Odd, very odd! I never killed a man before! Never dreamed I would. But I *liked* it. I really *enjoyed* killing."

In the stories, criminals were admired  
(Continued on page 60)



You arrive under your own power.



"We'll get to the bottom of it," he promises.



"Now," she says, "we'll have our bath."

# How I lost my dignity

Even if you lose no working parts, this always happens in a hospital.

By OCTAVUS ROY COHEN

**Y**OU ARE ENTERING the hospital for observation. That's what they tell you, and, brother, they're not kidding.

The prospect intrigues you. You're not sick, but you're not perfectly well, either. You are informed that things will be looked into. They don't specify what things, but it won't take you long to find out.

You arrive at the hospital under your own power, clutching a small suitcase containing things you believe you will need. Included are a half dozen pairs of pajamas. You've selected them with scrupulous care: the ones with the Hawaiian motif, the ones with the candy stripes, the plaid ones. There are others, but those are your favorites. Being male, with masculine vanity, you have a lurking suspicion—almost a hope—that the nurses will glance at you and swoon.

That's before you doff your street clothes and discover that your gay pajamas are destined to repose in the dresser drawer for the entire time you're under observation.

Instead of the nocturnal raiment of which you're so proud, you are presented with a hospital gown. You slide your arms into it and discover that it reaches only to your knees. This is embarrassing, since your knees have never been classified—even by yourself in

your most fatuous moments—as seductive.

The front elevation of a hospital gown is not alluring. The rear view is downright immodest. You slink into bed, convinced that the worst has already happened. You couldn't be more wrong.

A professionally cheerful nurse whisks into the room and notes your pulse rate and your temperature. They bring your lunch tray. For today, at least, you're on "full diet." It's not too bad, and you decide that you'll enjoy yourself after all provided no one peeps under the covers and discovers what you really look like.

Your personal physician pops in. He is bright and dignified. He hopes you'll have a good time, and assures you that you have chosen to do the proper thing. "Thorough checkup," he says. "Fine thing for a man of your age. Whatever has been bothering you, we'll get to the bottom of it." He neglects to tell you by what route they'll get there.

He converses with the nurse. You hear only half of what they say and are vaguely disturbed. It sounds much more technical than your condition seems to justify. You learn that they're going to start processing you at eight o'clock the next morning.

ILLUSTRATED BY WHITNEY DARROW, JR.

You hear something about a barium meal, but that doesn't bother you for the simple reason that you don't understand what it means. To you, X-ray means having your picture taken. Simple and painless. Your first disturbing thought comes that night at eleven o'clock when a new nurse appears. This nurse is a looker. You find yourself longing for your gay pajamas. You ask some silly questions like, "Well, what do I do now?"

"Hmm!" retorts the nurse brightly. "Of course tonight you'll be starved."

"Starved?" That has an ominous sound.

"That's just an expression. You'll merely be fasting from midnight until after they've finished with you in the X-ray room."

"I can eat until midnight?"

"Yes, indeed. But after that, no food or water."

It so happens that you've never been in the habit of eating—or even drinking water—during the night. But this prohibition bothers you. It's something you are forbidden to do, and therefore you wish to do it.

At 11:45 P.M. you induce the nurse to bring you a dish of fruit-flavored gelatine plus a glass of milk, of which you are not fond. At one minute of midnight you choke down a large glass of water. The clock strikes, and your nine-hour fast has started.

Two minutes later you are both



They don't say anything, just murmur.



And away we go!



One sip of barium is invariably enough.



It is true that all this can happen in a free country.

hungry and thirsty. You think about food and drink; you resolve that when you are back home again you'll spend your nights eating.

At 7:45 A.M. the day nurse appears, shoving a wheel chair. She tells you gaily that it's to provide transportation to the X-ray department. You pass doctors, nurses and patients. You get the idea that they're all watching you with somewhat ghoulis interest.

You go down in the elevator. You are pushed into a dimly-lit never-never land. You are taken into a gloomy-looking cavern where the fluoroscope is located. The nurse guides you to a standing position in front of a ghostly-looking doctor. You feel like you are being produced by Alfred Hitchcock.

A hand reaches out from the darkness and you find yourself holding a very large glass of something. The barium meal.

You are told, "Drink two or three sips, slowly."

One sip is enough. You decide instantly that barium will never be your favorite drink. The disembodied voice tells you to drink some more. You obey. You're afraid to do anything else.

During the fluoroscopic, voices murmur. They don't say anything you can understand, but they murmur. Lights turn on and off. You feel silly and uncomfortable. And finally you are told to finish the contents of the enormous glass you are still clutching. Fearful of the results, but even more fearful of refusing, you do it. Then someone announces that he's through with you, your nurse appears like a wraith out of the semi-darkness and you are led into an adjoining room.

There you recline on the hardest table ever invented by man. You are once again deprived of your robe and your semi-nudity is exposed to the disinterested gaze of a brash young X-ray technician.

Steel measuring tape gauges your

proximity to the camera over your head. Plates are placed beneath the surface on which you are lying. The young man vanishes behind a screen and tells you to stop breathing. Just when you feel that your lungs will burst, you are given permission to breathe again.

That goes on interminably. Then you don your robe again, return to your wheel chair, and you wait for the plates to be developed. Eventually someone announces that you may go, and the nurse says, "Well, that's that" and you are trundled down the hall and into the elevator.

Back in your room the nurse brings you a light breakfast. Then she vanishes, only to reappear a few minutes later with a basin of water, a cake of soap and an armful of towels. "Now," she announces happily, "we'll have our bath."

That startles you. It sounds much too intimate. Then you realize that she has used the "we" as royalty uses it: "We, King of So-and-So, decree that . . ."

You are now subjected to your first bed bath.

Under the law, a man's right of privacy may not be invaded. It's a good rule and an ancient one. But hospitals disregard it.

Your anatomy is divided off into sectors by your nurse. Head and face. One  
(Continued on page 42)



"Just a trifle run-down, but not ill and not likely to be ill."

# *Let's end the*

# BLACKOUT



*... Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That The American Legion in national convention assembled at Washington, D. C., August 30-September 2, 1954, go on record as in favor of conducting a nationwide campaign to see that all state-supported institutions of higher learning require examination in U. S. history either to enter or to graduate; and be it further*

*Resolved, That privately-endowed colleges and universities be requested to do likewise to the end that our American leadership will have knowledge of our history, traditions, ideals, personalities and economic and governmental systems.*



**By EDWARD LONGSTRETH**

**W**HILE WE ARE absorbed in the exciting chase after the skulking communists, it may come as something of a jolt to learn that 67 percent of our American colleges and universities, whether state-supported or privately endowed, do not require a student to pass an examination in American history either to enter or to graduate.

The startling significance of this comes home to us when we realize that although nearly all our leaders in government, in all the professions, in business, commerce and finance have a college experience of at least two years—you can hardly get a job in Macy's without two years of college—yet most of this leadership is required to have no more understanding of U. S. history than an adolescent, teen-age stripling absorbs in high school.

Suspecting from speeches and reports made daily in government and business that the situation was worth looking into, the author, as a public relations commissioner of The American Legion, Department of California, made a survey to see what the facts might be.

Letters inclosing return post cards were sent to 150 colleges and universities throughout the country—large and small, private and state-operated—as representative a list as possible. Of these, 126 replied. The results, it seems to me, are worth passing on to you.

To the questions—(1) "Is it compulsory



# OF U.S. HISTORY

All colleges have courses in U. S. history but only a few consider the subject really important.



to pass a course in U. S. history to get a B.A. or B.S. degree?" and (2) "Is it compulsory to pass an exam in U. S. history to register as a student?"—67% of those answering said "no" to both queries.

Many of our great private institutions of higher learning, whose alumni are counted among our most conservative citizens, require no understanding of our history and institutions above the high school level. They apparently are indifferent whether their graduates can distinguish between Karl Marx and Carl Schultz.

Among these delinquent privately-endowed colleges (though some receive State aid) are Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Dartmouth, Cornell, Oberlin, Western Reserve, Lafayette, Tufts, Bucknell, Ursinus, Bryn Mawr, Syracuse Kenyon, Dickinson, Johns Hopkins, Amherst, M.I.T., Holy Cross, Tulane, Goucher, Wellesley, Radcliffe, Bates, Bowdoin, Hiram, Temple, De Pauw, Trinity, Marquette, Brown, Fordham, Washburn, Vanderbilt, Swarthmore, Geo. Washington U., William and Mary, Northwestern College, University of the South, and others.

Not all the replies to our questions were a flat "yes" or "no" answer. Some replies were divided and a few explained that they required U. S. history for the B.A. degree but not for the science degree, as though engineers and scientists might be safely ignorant of how we developed as a self-governing people. What course can an engineer or scientist study that is more impor-

tant than a mature understanding of our national system under which he is free to work? Does geometry or calculus give better protection against the communist poison?

Several, like the University of South Carolina, in answering "yes" to the first question qualified it by explaining they admitted students on their high school diplomas, which require U. S. history. In fact, many colleges felt that no more should be expected of them.

Let us consider a moment what such an attitude means. Most high schools offer U. S. history courses to students in 8th and 11th grades, that is to say, when the student is about 13 and 17 years old. This must of necessity be a course in facts and knowledge of events. It can obviously do little to relate "cause" to "effect," by which men learn from the past what to do in the present and what to expect in the future. The teen-age mind is not usually experienced or developed enough to take this in. That is why adult history courses are offered at the college level. But merely offering them is not security enough. After all, in a world full of communist power and propaganda to understand ourselves well is part of our national armament for self-preservation.

Except for the Registrar of the University of Kansas, who wrote under remarks: "This is a silly questionnaire!" all other replies seemed to realize the importance and sincerity of what we were trying to find out and why. Several college officials, feeling there might be a chance of misunderstanding their position, explained their policy at some length even in letters giving the reasons why they considered a high school course sufficient.

For example, Swarthmore replied, "We have not thought it wise to require a college course in U. S. history, since all students have just had it in high school. Certain states in this area now require two years of American history for all high schools."

But consider again what this means—that a college is willing to accept an adolescent standard in the place of an adult understanding, which the higher institution has a responsibility and obligation to inculcate. Surely a course on the 8th and 11th grade level is not mature enough for a college graduate.

The University of Washington also accepts a teen-age standard. "By the ruling of the State Board of Public Instruction, one unit of U. S. history and government is required for graduation from a Washington state high school. Therefore most students have a course in U. S. history when they enter."

We have no quarrel with high school history textbooks; what we have seen of them appear to be very good, but they are written for teen-age boys and girls, not for men and women who will supply America with leadership in all walks of life.

In a letter the Dean of Admissions of the University of Tennessee explained that under the state law it could not accept any student from a state high school who has not had one year of American history in high school, "unless such student agrees to take during the first year in college a year in U. S. history, or a year of basic political science."

Although the University of Wyoming answered "no" to both questions, the Registrar explained: "By Wyoming statute, this university is compelled to require a course in the Constitution of the U. S. and of Wyoming for graduation."

Bucknell remarked that it "requires a course in American history of students qualifying for certificates to teach in public schools of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania."

From Alverno College, Milwaukee, Sister M. Edmund, O.S.F., wrote: "A course in U. S. history is not compulsory; it is recommended. Very few of our students graduate without having a

(Continued on page 41)



By JACK DENTON SCOTT

With the winds of March blowing like crazy and your favorite fishing waters deep-frozen, it doesn't seem possible that within one short month it will be time to don hip boots and put the fishing rod together. Some fishermen, like Justin P. Egan of Manchester, N. H., take this tail-end time kindly and use it to tinker with their tackle—a make-ready month for those sunlit days ahead.



By a sagacious use of balsa wood Mr. Egan has saved himself many a headache with tangled lures. He glues a ½-inch piece of the light and easily workable wood around the inside of the tray of his tackle box (as shown in diagram above) after he has placed a 3/32-inch-thick piece flat on the bottom of the tray. The virtue of the balsa wood is that the hooks on your lures and flies can be inserted in its soft surface without harm to either the wood or your equipment. Mr. Egan says that the idea really works wonders in keeping the tackle box in an orderly condition.

The *Uniform Hunter Casualty Report* published by The National Rifle Association, based on 1953 (the last year reported), has come in. Only twenty-six States use the standard reporting form, but even that's meat enough for all to chew on.

Hunting casualties get a lot of newspaper and magazine publicity which is out of proportion to other leading types of accidents.

However, as hunting is increasing, so are hunting accidents. Shotguns caused more casualties than rifles. (Handguns are way down.) The casualty figures furnished by the twenty-six States are — shotguns, 60%; rifles, 37%; handguns, 3%. Total casualties, 1,166. Most of the casualties were not fatal.

Groups or individuals interested in this report, or in the Hunter Safety Course of the NRA, or in forming a gun club should write to NRA at 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, Washington 6, D. C.

In case you've been lying awake nights wondering about it, the bald eagle was adopted as our national bird by the Congress on June 20, 1782.

Perhaps the most notable advancement in shotguns in fifty years recently made its debut. Called the Browning Double Automatic Shotgun, it was invented by Val A. Browning, son of the late John M. Browning who gave us the Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR—used by thousands of GIs in the last war), the Browning automatic shotgun, and the superposed over-under shotgun. This new two-shot gun weighs a pound less than the average shotgun and represents a new conception in shooting from trigger to muzzle. Based on a new short recoil system, the shotgun's system floats the single barrel to a cushioned rest against balanced springs. It also floats the breechblock throughout the complete mechanical cycle of ejection and loading—with the barrel and breechblock returning to shooting position against cushioned springs. The over-all result is that there is almost no recoil shock—the mechanism absorbs it.



Manufactured only in 12 gauge, the Browning Double Automatic comes in standard and lightweight models, both having the heft and feel of a 20, yet with all the advantages of the 12 bore. Three barrel lengths, 26 to 30 inches, four chokes, full to skeet. The stock is of seasoned French walnut, has a full pistol grip. The entire gun is hand engraved, checkered and fitted by Belgian craftsmen at Fabrique Nationale des Armes de Guerre at Liege, makers of Browning shotguns since 1900.

Elsworth M. Harger, biologist at Michigan's Houghton Lake experiment station, with two friends and their dogs, tracked down and caught an 18-pound female bobcat, tagged it with tag number 2700 in its left ear and released it.

Harger said, "Her teeth only went through my skin a little bit, although I wore heavy gloves."

This work is part of a continuing study of the bobcat being carried on by the Michigan Department of Conservation. Anyone who shoots this cat is asked to please report it to the Houghton Lake station.

Sam Underberger, 736 N. W. 1st Street, Miami, Fla., tells us that if we want to keep fishing supplies from rusting in the tackle box, just to drop in a couple of moth balls. Says they do the job in tool boxes and gun cases, too.

Bill Rettig, an ex-New York City policeman, knows how to handle a gun in a pinch. Bill is a guard and messenger for the Franklin Savings Bank at 8th Avenue and 42nd Street, New York City. He spent 21 years on the New York Police Force.

Just after ten o'clock Tuesday morning, January 4th, Bill was making a deposit for his bank at the New York Trust Company, 7th Avenue and 39th Street. He heard a voice say, "Give me your gun." He turned swiftly to see a man sticking a revolver in the back of the New York Trust Company guard, Edward A. Kaszuba. He saw the guard whirl and try to pin the holdup man's arms to his side. The gun went off and Kaszuba slumped to the floor wounded in the leg. The would-be bank robber bolted for the door, waving his pistol. Bill Rettig reached inside his coat, pulled his gun and fired. Double action. No time for taking careful aim. Ellison Gaylord Gray, the holdup man, dropped mortally wounded. He died in a few minutes. The F.B.I. identified Ellison Gaylord Gray, age 27, as being on its wanted list for having robbed the Grand Avenue Bank of Kansas City, Mo., of \$3,209.00 in October.

This emphasizes what we say in our article, "Shall We Pay Our Cops or Robbers?" on page 16 in this issue. All communities should see to it that funds are appropriated to afford their police regular target practice. If the punks know that the local cops can shoot to kill, they may decide that crime isn't worth it.



Remington has brought out a new 22 caliber, slide action repeater known as the model 572 Fieldmaster. We fired it on our 50-yard range and it's a sweet-handling little gun, light and well-balanced. It takes the place of Remington's model 121. It is the only slide action 22 rifle that can readily be single-loaded through the ejection port. It's a handsome gun and it has the graceful, curved line at the rear of the receiver that other Remington guns have. Remington guns are beginning to fall into the "matched set" pattern of golf irons. The new models look so similar.

The safety button at the rear of the trigger guard really works. We tried it. And we liked the big semi-beavertail fore-end.

The gun will take 20 short, 17 long or 15 long rifle cartridges. Hunting sights. Barrel grooved at receiver for "tip-off" type scope mount. Weight, 5½ lbs. Length over-all, 42 inches. Cost, \$49.95.

(Continued on page 48)



### NEW YORK WW2 BONUS FOR NON-RESIDENTS:

"Newsletter" has lately learned that there are still some WW2 vets entitled to a New York State bonus who, being non-residents of N. Y. since WW2, do not know they have a bonus coming. . . . WW2 vets not dishonorably discharged were and still are entitled to N. Y. bonus if they resided in N. Y. state when inducted and for six months previous to induction. . . . Confusion arose when original N. Y. bonus law after WW2 required that vets still reside in the state. . . . This law was changed in 1949 so that residence in N. Y. after WW2 is not required. . . . N. Y. bonus for WW2 provides \$50 for less than 60 days service in continental U. S.; \$150 for 60 days or more in continental U. S. . . . Bonus is \$250 for servicemen or servicewomen with foreign duty. . . . Active duty period for bonus eligibility runs between dates of Dec. 7, 1941 and Sept. 2, 1945. . . . WW2 vets who are eligible for a N. Y. bonus and haven't gotten it yet should write for application form to New York State Veterans Bonus Bureau, 1875 North Broadway, Albany, N. Y.

\* \* \* \*

### TAX LAWS AFFECT POSTS, LEGIONNAIRES:

Federal tax law has a number of provisions, some new some old, that directly affect American Legion Posts and Legionnaires. Some of these follow:

(a) Under newest law, Posts continue to be exempt from paying Federal income tax. . . . But not if they go into a commercial business, says Internal Revenue Bureau.

(b) No federal admissions tax need be paid for attendance at Legion Junior Baseball games. (Don't apply this rule to other baseball games without knowing full provisions of law. Many conditions must be met before admissions tax can be avoided, and regular Junior Baseball games happen to meet these conditions.) This exemption is new.

(c) Bequests and legacies made to The American Legion are exempt from Federal Estate Taxes. This is new.

(d) Individuals may still claim a deduction from their taxable income for contributions (not dues) to The American Legion.

\* \* \* \*

### BILL IN CONGRESS TO SAVE EDUCATION RIGHTS OF MEN IN SERVICE BEFORE FEBRUARY 1:

The House Veterans Affairs Committee favorably reported, in late January, a bill introduced by Rep. Olin Teague (Texas) to help preserve the GI education rights of persons now in military service who were also in before February 1. . . . Earlier, President Eisenhower had brought an end to any new eligibility for Korea GI Bill rights. . . .

He signed an executive order to the effect that men with no service before Feb. 1 could not be eligible for K Bill rights or other rights and benefits for wartime veterans. . . . One effect of the order was to cut short the earning of further K Bill educational rights by men who were in service before the cutoff date. . . . The amount of Korea GI Bill education rights a veteran can earn depends upon his length of service. . . . When the President's order cut off further eligibility for K Bill rights, it prevented men already in service from accruing educational entitlement after Feb. 1. . . . The Teague bill, if OKed by the House, Senate and President, would permit such servicemen to continue to earn education and training entitlement for service after Feb. 1.

\* \* \* \*

### MARINES KISS M-1 CARBINE GOODBYE:

The Marine Corps has crossed the M-1 Carbine off its list of weapons. . . . Basic Marine weapon for ratings up to Tech Sgt. will be a caliber .30 rifle henceforth. . . . Master Sgts. and commissioned officers will pack caliber .45 semi-automatic pistols.

\* \* \* \*

### VETS HAVE DEFINITE RIGHT TO CERTAIN TRAVEL EXPENSES:

A veteran who is ordered by the VA to report for a physical examination has a right to have the VA pay travel expenses involved, if the examination is ordered for the convenience and purposes of the government. . . . A recently appealed case involved a veteran who was ordered to report for physical examination as a check on his continued receipt of disability compensation. . . . The VA manager, whose funds were running low, did not authorize travel expenses, believing he had discretion.

On appeal, the veteran was awarded travel expenses retroactively. . . . The appeal board found that the manager does have discretion in awarding travel allowances in some instances, but that the veteran has a definite right to travel allowances when the examination is ordered for the convenience and purposes of the government. . . . Question involved meaning of VA Reg. 6100.

\* \* \* \*

### PHONY WAC DIRECTORY?

"Newsletter" has received complaints about a WAC Journal Publishing Company in New York City. . . . Sense of complaint is that company took orders by mail from former servicewomen, promising to deliver a directory of women in the Armed Forces, but that company cashed checks and evaporated without furnishing the promised

directory. . . . "Newsletter" would like to hear from any others who paid company for such directory and got nothing in return. . . . Write Newsletter, American Legion Magazine, 720 Fifth Ave., New York 19, N. Y.

\* \* \* \*

### **NEW HAMPSHIRE EASES RED TAPE FOR VETS PREFERENCE:**

State of New Hampshire's Personnel Division has taken a step to speed up awarding of vets preference for applicants for state jobs. . . . To award 10 points preference for disability, the state requires a letter from VA as proof of disability. . . . In the past, N. H. would only recognize such a letter for three months after date on VA's letterhead. . . . Many of these letters expired while register machinery was still grinding. . . . Expiration brought machinery to halt until new letter could be gotten. . . . But in December, State Personnel Director Roy Y. Lang announced that N. H. Personnel Division would henceforth honor a VA proof-of-disability letter for a full year after date on letterhead.

\* \* \* \*

### **MICHIGAN LEGION POSTS WILL PROVIDE STATE KOREA BONUS APPLICATIONS:**

The American Legion in Michigan is setting up a program whereby Korea veterans may get their Michigan Korea Bonus applications from the nearest American Legion Post. . . . The forms were not yet available at presstime for this issue of "Newsletter". . . . Printing awaited passage of an enabling act by the State Legislature, which convened January 12. . . . The Michigan Korea bonus was approved by voters at the polls last Election Day. . . . Michigan has about 250,000 Korea veterans, in 83 counties. . . . Michigan's 518 Legion Posts are so widely distributed that most bonus eligibles will be able to pick up applications in person at Legion Posts in their own localities. . . . Average bonus payment will be about \$320.

\* \* \* \*

### **VA HOME LOANS WAY UP IN 1954:**

VA did a land-office business in GI home loans in 1954. . . . More than 400,000 loans were approved, an increase of 25 percent over 1953, and amount of loans topped \$4 billion. . . . Korea-period veterans seeking housing were chiefly responsible for upsurge. . . . Figures bring total GI home loans since start of WW2 GI program to giant figure of \$25.7 billion channelled into housing and allied industries as result of the two GI bills. . . . The VA guaranteed \$14 billion of this amount. . . . More than \$6.2 billion has been repaid by the veterans who borrowed the money, including \$3.2 billion repaid in full and \$3 billion paid in installments on loans still outstanding. . . . Total veterans assisted in buying homes under two GI bills number more than 3.6 million. . . . VA has had to make good its guaranty to lenders on slightly more than .005 of the loans (five one-thousandths). . . . Business and farm loans did not surge upward with housing loans in 1954, continued to decline. . . . Upsurge of housing loans has swamped VA loan certifying service with work (see next item.)

\* \* \* \*

### **HOW TO SAVE TIME IN GETTING GI HOME LOAN:**

Because of heavy workload of VA housing loan staff, veterans applying for VA guaranteed housing loans are meeting some delays in being certified. . . . Vets need not wait until they are ready to buy a house before being certified as personally eligible for a GI home loan. . . . A vet can

submit his discharge papers to VA at any time to get certificate of eligibility for a housing loan, then keep it with private papers to have ready any time he may wish to apply for a loan.

\* \* \* \*

### **PENSIONS CUT OFF IF QUESTIONNAIRE NOT ANSWERED:**

In January, VA mailed out its annual income questionnaires to the 924,000 veterans, veterans widows and veterans children who receive pensions. . . . Since pensions are hitched to individual's other income, these questionnaires must be returned, properly filled out, in order to keep pensioners on the rolls. Pensioners are reminded that pension payments may be stopped if questionnaires are not returned in good order within 30 days.

\* \* \* \*

### **ARMY & AIR FORCE RESERVISTS CAN DRAW RETIREMENT PAY WHILE ON GOV'T JOBS:**

U. S. Court of Claims recently decided that Army and Air Force Reserve Officers are not barred from drawing retirement pay while holding gov't jobs that pay \$3,000 a year or more. . . . Such officers had previously been barred from drawing retirement pay under an interpretation of Public Law 212, enacted in 1932. . . . That law prohibits regular officers from receiving retirement pay while in receipt of other gov't pay in excess of \$3,000, and the new decision does not affect the "dual pay" limitation on retired regular officers. . . . Nor does the new decision affect retired Naval Reserve officers, who have been exempted from the "dual pay" prohibition of the 1932 law for six years, as a result of an interpretation of the Naval Reserve Act of 1938 made by the Comptroller General in 1948.

Some 40 Army and Air Force retired reserve officers who are now working for the Government in civilian capacities brought the recent action. . . . They held that Public Law 153 (1947) specifically provided that no previously enacted law should prevent them from accepting and receiving pay for civilian public service in addition to any pay and allowances to which they might be entitled as reservists. . . . The Court of Claims ruled that they were correct.

\* \* \* \*

### **VETS BENEFITS FOR SOME WAACS:**

A new group of veterans benefits is now available to certain former WAACs (not WACs). . . . The ex-WAACs concerned are those who (a) served in the WAAC at least 90 days and (b) were honorably discharged from the WAAC for disability in the line of duty, which disability rendered them unfit for further service in either the WAAC or the WAC. . . . The benefits newly available to these women are veterans' compensation, pension, vocational rehabilitation and GI loans. . . . They are available on the same basis that they are available to military veterans.

The WAAC (Women's Army Auxiliary Corps) never had full military status. It was created in May, 1942 and was replaced by the WAC (Women's Army Corps) in Sept. 1943. . . . The WAC had full military status and its veterans have always had the same status as other Armed Forces veterans. . . . The new extension of benefits to WAACs was made in Public Law 650, passed last year. . . . It recognizes the inability of those discharged for line-of-duty disability to have joined the WAC when it was formed and thus to have gained full military status.

MARCH 1955

## Security and Foreign Relations Commissions in Joint Meetings

For four days beginning Jan. 27, The American Legion Nat'l Security and Foreign Relations Commissions met in joint session in Washington, D. C. The Auxiliary Nat'l Security Committee met with them on the opening day.

Newspaper headlines and radio news broadcasts dealt at length with the alarming and critical situation off Formosa as the Defense and State Departments briefed the Legion Commissions on U. S. policy and operations.

The Legionnaires got straight-from-the-shoulder talks from speakers who covered all phases of American military policy, foreign policy and civilian defense. Because of the nature of the information, the State and Defense Department sessions were held behind closed doors at the Pentagon and State Department Buildings.

The opening session at the Statler Hotel in downtown Washington was presided over by Mrs. Pat Kelly, Nat'l Chmn, Auxiliary Security Committee. Nat'l Cmdr Seaborn P. Collins and Nat'l President Mrs. Percy A. Lainson extended greetings to the delegates. Bruce P. Henderson, Chmn, Nat'l Security Commission, and Rogers Kelley, Chmn, Foreign Relations Commission, spoke briefly.

The joint meeting of the Auxiliary Security Committee and the Nat'l Security and Foreign Relations Commissions heard Jim Lucas, Scripps-Howard foreign correspondent, describe the situation in the Far East.

Drawing from his background as a reporter with many years in Japan, Korea and Indonesia, Lucas pin-pointed American successes and mistakes in Asia. In all, he said, we have not done too badly. And he expressed confidence in the ability of the U. S. to win out over communist efforts in the long run.

Warren Atherton, Past Nat'l Cmdr of The American Legion, and now a member of the President's Nat'l Security Training Commission spoke on the importance of building a strong reserve. He expressed his belief that some form of reserve training would be written into law this spring.

Speaking with the Formosan situation in mind, Atherton said that if the

U. S. were prepared to back up its voice with a strong reserve, it would be "more convincing in the councils of the world."

Atherton cut short his remarks to allow Sen. William Knowland (Calif.) to address the group before returning to the Senate to debate the resolution to permit the President to use force, if necessary, in defense of Formosa.

Sen. Knowland, speaking off the cuff, stated the sense of the resolution in these words: "The government and the people of the United States have come to a realization that it was essential to draw a line in the vicinity of Formosa. That line has been drawn. That line is going to be maintained."

To critics of the resolution or those who misunderstood its intent, the Senator answered, "We are not seeking any

preventive war, misstatements to the contrary notwithstanding. If they want to make it a war, they have it, of course, in their hands to do so. They must not be under any false conception that they will again have a privileged sanctuary, as they had over the Yalu River."

The Thursday afternoon session was highlighted by three closed meetings. Speaking to the Nat'l Security and Foreign Relations Commission, were Walter Robertson, Ass't Sec'y of State for Far Eastern Affairs; Allen W. Dulles, Director, Central Intelligence Agency; and Theodore C. Steibert, Director, U. S. Information Agency.

Other speakers on Thursday afternoon were: Brig. Gen. W. W. Welsh, USAF, (Ret.); Alex Purdon, Committee of American Steamship Lines; Admiral DeWitt Ramsey USN (Ret.), President, Aircraft Industries Ass'n and Louis S. Rothschild, Chm, Federal Maritime Board.

On Friday, Jan. 28, the Nat'l Security Commission attended an all-day briefing at the Pentagon. The Foreign Relations

### NATIONAL SECURITY TRAINING BILL



Senator Richard B. Russell (Ga.) left, Chmn of the Senate Armed Services Committee, discusses S.2, the Legion-backed Nat'l Security Training Bill with Nat'l Cmdr Seaborn P. Collins, center, and Senator Leverett Saltonstall (Mass.) right.

Commission was closeted with officials of the State Department headed by Sec'y of State John Foster Dulles.

The off-the-record disclosures by both Departments to Legion officials dealt with the many problems of mutual interest.

Nat'l Cmdr Seaborn P. Collins joined the Foreign Relations Commission in its visit to the State Department. At the Defense Department, Past Nat'l Cmdrs Ray Kelly, Perry Brown, Erle Cocke, Jr., and Lewis Gough were in attendance. On Saturday, January 29, the Security and Foreign Relations Commissions met separately. The sessions were held in the Legion Bldg. at 1608 K Street, N.W. The first speaker before the Security Commission was Maj. Genl. Lewis Hershey, Director, Selective Service System.

Reviewing the inequities of the present reserve program and comparing it to the militia of pre-WWI days, Hershey urged unity among supporters of pending reserve legislation. Pointing out that supporters of such legislation disagreed only on details, he asked for support in getting the basic law passed. Those who oppose the law, said Hershey, had one thing in their favor — they were united in opposition.

Representative Chet Holifield (Calif.) prefaced his talk by saying, "My remarks will be brief and blunt." He then outlined the problem of civilian defense in the Hydrogen Age and declared it a federal obligation.

Calling the present civil defense program "tragically inadequate," Holifield described the attitude of the American public toward civil defense as "one of boredom, skepticism and indifference." This attitude, said Holifield, results from the citizen having "no facts, or sugar-coated facts, concerning the present danger. . . ."

As an example of information withheld from the American people, Holifield cited hydrogen tests in the Pacific last spring. Although it is known that Japanese fishermen were exposed to a radioactive fall-out at that time, there has so far been no official announcement as to the "implications of radioactive fall-out for Civil Defense."

Calling upon the President to give the American people the facts about radioactive fall-outs, Holifield stressed the fact that there can be no realistic CD program without it.

Federal responsibility for CD will eliminate the present inadequacies; anything less will result in a disaster which can peril national survival, said Holifield.

Following Congressman Holifield as speaker was Gov. Val Peterson, Adminis-

trator, Federal Civil Defense Administration. He was joined on the Civil Defense Panel by Col. Barnet W. Beers, Assistant for Civil Defense Liaison and Roy Johnson, Office of Public Information, American Red Cross.

Afternoon session speakers included: Maj. Gen. E. A. Walsh, President, National Guard Ass'n; Col. C. M. Boyer, Executive Director, Reserve Officers Ass'n; Edgar Shelton, Executive Director, President's Nat'l Security Training Commission; L. R. Sanford, President, Shipbuilders Council of America; George W. Morgan, President, Ass'n of American Ship Owners and Col. Owen Clarke.

## Foreign Relations

Across the hall on the seventh floor of the Legion Bldg., the Foreign Relations Commission heard from Ambassadors of two countries in critical areas.

First was Victor Andrade, Bolivian Ambassador, who spoke on the critical role of Bolivia in Latin America. He was followed by Ahmed Hussein, Egyptian Ambassador, who discussed Egypt's position as leader of the Arab states and her role in the event of attack by Eastern powers.

## Executive Sessions

Both groups devoted Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning to executive sessions. The Nat'l Security Commission reported out three resolutions:

1) A memorial to Lt. Gen. Raymond McLain, recently deceased member of the President's Nat'l Security Commission.

2) A resolution urging creation of sufficient strength to ward off attack by an aggressor; advocating that the cold war be fought with all the "intelligence, vigor and determination of which we are capable"; and voicing "commendation and support" for government action along these lines.

3) Implementation of Resolution 784, 1948 Nat'l Convention, providing for creation of the office of Asst Sec'y of Defense for Reserve Affairs.

Of the nine resolutions referred to the Commission by the 36th Nat'l Convention in Washington, D. C., the Commission rejected four, referred two to the next meeting and adopted three with amendments. Those adopted were:

(1) Resolution 181, Blood Donor Program of Pennsylvania. Commended to other Departments for favorable consideration, but not as a mandated program.

(2) Resolution 570, Cost of Living Increase for Armed Forces. Urged that cost of living increase in pay be authorized and that other inequalities in pay

rates, including that for retired personnel, be adjusted.

(3) Resolution 546, Discharge Buttons for Vets of Korea. Called to the attention of Nat'l Organization, for appropriate action, lack of distinguishing discharge button for veterans of Korean emergency.

The Commission's action on these resolutions must be reviewed by the Nat'l Executive Committee at its May, 1955 meeting before becoming mandates.

A three-man subcommittee was appointed to investigate injustices to American servicemen occurring under the "Status of Forces" agreement. These agreements provide that American troops stationed in foreign countries may be tried and sentenced by foreign courts. The committee included Ed. J. Zohle (Wyo.), Patrick Petrone (Ill.) and William C. Doyle (N. J.)

The Legion action paralleled that of the Senate Armed Services Committee which earlier announced an investigation to determine whether American servicemen overseas are being subjected to "injustices" in foreign courts.

The Defense Department meanwhile said that of 3787 crimes allegedly committed by American servicemen in foreign countries in the first six months of last year, 33 resulted in confinement in foreign prisons.

## NST

Meanwhile, the National Security Training Bill co-sponsored by The American Legion and other veterans organizations was in the hopper.

On January 6, it was introduced in the Senate, numbered S-2, by Sen. Richard B. Russell (Ga.), Chmn of the Senate Armed Services Committee and Sens. Bridges (N. H.), Saltonstall (Mass.), Symington (Mo.), Stennis (Miss.), Jackson (Wash.), and Kefauver (Tenn.).

In the House, Congressman Carl Vinson, Chmn of the House Armed Services Committee, introduced the companion bill, H.R. 1630.

The Legion-backed bill provides for: (1) Induction of all qualified men 18 to 21 for 1,000 hours of basic training; (2) An over-all military obligation of eight years, reducible to five years by participation in the active duty reserve program; (3) Extension of Selective Service Act for four years; (4) Trainees to be organized as a Nat'l Security Training Corps separate from the standing army; (5) Reduction of standing forces in the ratio of one professional for each three trainees assigned to the Reserve.

Behind this legislation was all the

strength The American Legion could bring to bear. Passage of the NST Bill had the Legion's number one legislative priority. Supporting the Legislative Division would be the combined letter-writing efforts of the 31,000 Posts and Auxiliary Units.

A detailed plan to carry out the operation went to each Post. In essence it calls for each Legionnaire to write a letter to his Senators and the Congressmen representing his district. One man would be appointed to hold these letters to be mailed when Nat'l Cmdr Seaborn P. Collins gives the go ahead signal.

Alternatives to this plan call for each Legionnaire to give his Post Adjutant money for three telegraphic night letters or to write three two-cent post cards.

The Post plan includes suggested messages to be used for all three methods of communication. The vital part of the plan lies in the timing.

Premature mailings will be wasted. Nat'l Cmdr Collins, who is directing the legislative drive, will notify all Posts and Units when mailings should be made.

The "M-Day" — Message Day — program is designed to deluge members of the 84th Congress at the correct time with mail favoring passage of NST legislation.

In late January, the Nat'l Public Relations Div. released a elip sheet devoted entirely to support of NST. In addition to details of the letter-writing campaign, it offered other aids such as newspaper and radio releases, editorials, and cartoons. An order blank for other material available was also provided.

Details of the NST bills, as written in S-2 and H.R. 1630, are given in the Legion pamphlet *National Security Training as Presented by The American Legion*. Copies can be had on request to Nat'l Security Div., P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis 6, Ind.

## RELIGION:

### The Newest Program

On February 1, The American Legion's new 16-page *Back To God* handbook was ready for distribution to all Post Commanders and Chaplains. Initial distribution will be made through Dep't Headquarters.

From the very beginning of The American Legion, religious emphasis has played a large part in its activities. At the Nat'l Convention in Miami in 1951, many Post and Dep't religious programs were brought together for the first time as a National American Legion project. At the 1954 National Convention in Washington, D. C., the *Back To God* program became a permanent national program.

At the Chaplains' Conference in October, 1954, it was agreed that The American Legion's newest program

needed a handbook for the guidance of Post Commanders. The newly published booklet represents the combined efforts of chaplains and laymen in this field.

The booklet outlines the program for the guidance of Commanders and Chaplains and shows its relationship to other Legion programs. It suggests the use of aids such as Grace-before-meal cards, films, billboards and other media to get The American Legion's message to all Americans.

It defines the objectives of the program as:

Regular public worship

Daily family prayer

The religious education of our children.

Those Posts or Departments which wish to make a wider distribution of the *Back To God* handbook may obtain additional copies for ten cents each or \$7.50 per hundred, delivered. Write Nat'l Emblem Sales, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis 6, Ind.

### On The Air

The annual *Back To God* TV and radio program was scheduled this year for Sunday, Feb. 20 at 8:00 P.M. EST. At press time, Legion officials announced that the program would emanate from Grand Central Terminal, New York City, over the nationwide network of the American Broadcasting

System. In addition to representatives of all religious faiths, the West Point choir and President Dwight D. Eisenhower were scheduled to participate in the program.

## CHILD WELFARE:

### April is The Month

At the end January, The American Legion Nat'l Child Welfare Division announced:

(1) The 18th annual observance of Child Welfare month will take place in April.

(2) A new publication, *Speaking of Children*, went into the mails for the first time in February. The new 4-page newsletter will be distributed free to Dep't Child Welfare Chmn of The American Legion, Auxiliary, 40&8 and 8&40, as well as to other Nat'l and Dep't officials.

The Child Welfare Memorandum which has been published for some years will now be used to get operational and administrative material into the hands of Dept Child Welfare Chmn.

(3) Child Welfare Division will distribute 46,000 copies of its 12-page booklet *Let's Have Fun*. Stressing the satisfaction that comes from work with children, the booklet urges any Post without a Child Welfare program to get one started. To illustrate some of the ways the job can be done, it gives examples of programs now in operation.

## 37th NATIONAL CONVENTION, MIAMI, FLA., OCT. 9-13



Nat'l Cmdr Seaborn P. Collins, above center, signs the 1955 Nat'l Convention Contract. With the Commander, left to right, are: Joe H. Adams, Chmn, Nat'l Convention Commission; Past Nat'l Vice-Cmdr Harry L. Foster, member of the Commission; Nat'l Cmdr Collins; Nat'l Adjt Henry H. Dudley; and Nat'l Executive Committeeman, E. Meade Wilson of Florida. Convention Headquarters are at 146 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, Florida. The telephone number is 3-0691. Mail should be addressed to P. O. Box 2830, Miami, Fla.

## Halfway Home

The American Legion Auxiliary announced last month that the Nat'l President's project for the year was a \$50,000 donation to the Legion's Child Welfare Foundation. Auxiliary followed up with prompt action.

On Feb. 2, The Auxiliary Nat'l Finance Committee and Nat'l Executive Committee authorized payment of half the amount — \$25,000 to the Foundation.

The balance of the amount is to be raised by Auxiliary Unit contributions. With the good start already made, the Auxiliary may go well over the announced goal.

## Comics' Conscience

Youngish Judge Charles F. Murphy, ex-New York City magistrate and new czar of the comics magazine industry had his czardom in full swing on E. 42nd St. in New York in January. Murphy's job: to review, and approve or disapprove, every comics magazine proposed for publication by 27 of the 29 leading U. S. comics publishers.

Last Oct. 26, a combine of publishers and allied firms in the comics field voluntarily set Murphy up to formulate a code for comics and be their conscience and guide in an atmosphere of hostile public criticism of some of the content of some of the comics. (See "Will They Clean Up The Comic Books?" page 20).

Today, in Murphy's office, a staff of five women pores over every panel, every word, every ad, every cover of advance layouts of the intended product of the 27 publishers. At times they frown, or look bored. At times they laugh. Finally, they exercise a freely given power of censorship over comics magazines, subject only to the review of their boss, Judge Murphy.

By January, the seal of approval of the Comics Magazine Association of America (see cut) began to appear on newsstand products. Code Administrator Murphy calculated that by mid-February no member publisher would be putting new comics titles on sale without the seal.

Early in January, William Gaines brought his line of Entertaining Comics into the association. With the entry of Gaines, whose horror comics (recently abandoned) had brought widespread criticism, the large Dell outfit remained the only big publisher in the 10¢ line outside the fold. Classics Illustrated, a 15-center, was on the outside too.

In Murphy's office, his staff of five works from an accepted code. The code, in addition to listing a host of taboos for comics, includes a Part C, titled "General Standards," empowering Mur-

phy to clamp down on any comics content that may violate the code's intent.

The code specifically prohibits, among other things, sympathy for criminals or crime, detailing of crimes, distrust of law and justice, excessive violence, brutal torture, methods of concealing weapons, crime triumphant, horror, terror, excessive bloodshed, gore, gruesomeness, depravity, lust, sadism, masochism, lurid or unsavory illustrations, evil presented alluringly, profanity, obscenity, smut, vulgarity, racial or religious ridicule, nudity, indecent exposure, sensually suggestive and salacious illustration.



New comics seal of approval

It is Murphy's job to interpret the code in line with its intent. A large section of the world's great literature, as well as many episodes of its history, have dealt with love, conflict, violence, passion, crime and combat, and it is not the intent of the code to remove these completely as subject material. Murphy's office attempts to interpret the code in terms of good taste and public policy, and to judge whether material is used merely to exploit primitive emotions or as a proper vehicle for acceptable story-telling.

Murphy's staff sends some disapproved layouts for comics magazines back to the publisher with directives and suggestions for changes that will meet the code; others are rejected outright as unsuitable. Approved layouts are returned with approval, after having been microfilmed in Murphy's office. These may use the seal of approval, and the member publishers are pledged to release nothing without the seal.

Says Murphy: "Some of our ideas about acceptability came as a shock at first to the creators of comics. But today [early January] we are getting complete cooperation from all members and

a readjustment of thinking is noticeable." After a few months of the operation, a higher percentage of original layouts was acceptable at first look. In November and December, the first two months of code operation, 126 proposed comics stories had been rejected entirely as unsuitable.

The American Legion, at its St. Louis Convention of 1953, passed a Child Welfare resolution bitterly condemning the worst of the comic books. Last summer, in Washington, the 1954 Convention took note of the new self-policing efforts of the industry, voted to encourage the Comics Magazines Association of America and withhold further criticism pending results.

## MEMBERSHIP:

## Thanks to Hank

The telephone switchboard at Nat'l Hq was busy on Feb. 1, as a result of a plan engineered by Nat'l Cmdr Seaborn P. Collins to celebrate the 64th birthday of Nat'l Adjutant Henry H. (Hank) Dudley.

The plan — kept a closely guarded secret — was to have each Dep't Adjutant call Hank on his birthday and report on membership campaigns in his Dep't. In a letter to the Dep't Adjts, Cmdr Collins pointed out the deep interest of the Nat'l Adj't in this subject and how much he would enjoy hearing the results of the 1955 membership drive. The calls would serve to say "Thanks to Hank" for his 35 years of Legion service.

Hank, Nat'l Adjutant since 1948, is The American Legion's number one administrative figure. A hard worker, he demands as much from his staff as he does from himself. A familiar figure to thousands of Legionnaires, he is best known for his nearly perpetual frown.

In making known his idea to the Dep't Adjutants, Cmdr Collins called attention to one of Hank's dislikes — publicizing the employees. If Hank knew that there was a plan afoot to boost him, he would soon stop it, said the Commander. For that reason, the plan was carefully kept from Hank.

In the brochure which went to the Dep't Adjutants on January 3, Nat'l Cmdr Collins used the Army's definition of the qualities of a good adjutant:

"Tact, urbanity, discretion, loyalty, dependability and untiring devotion to duty are but a few of the essential qualities of a successful adjutant. His day is never done nor his patience ever exhausted."

Said the Commander: "What the Army says about adjutants is doubly true in The American Legion. Without Adjutants I don't know what would be-

come of this great organization of ours."

By the end of Hank's happiest birthday, more than 50 Departments had called in to Nat'l Hq. First one, at 8:00 A. M., was Ohio Dep't Adj't Joe Deutehle who exchanged happy growls with Hank and tipped him off to what was in store for him.

With the majority of the Departments reporting increased membership, Hank grudgingly admitted that the party was a nice one. Hunched over his big desk Hank barked his thanks and, true to character, demanded that the Legion keep right on bringing in the members for the rest of the year.

As of Feb. 2, membership stood at 2,092,818, an increase of 7,137 over the same date in 1954. Hank's goal: 3,000,000 by the end of the year.

## Another Birthday

While Hank was celebrating his birthday, the Membership and Post Activities Division was pushing ahead with plans for The American Legion's 36th birthday celebration, March 15-17. In a four-page clip sheet distributed to Posts and Departments, membership news and suggested aids were given.

Some of the aids included:

- 1) Mats for cooperative ads in three- and five-column size.
- 2) Newspaper releases, and radio and TV spot announcements.
- 3) A "magic formula" for getting members — carrying membership blanks in your pocket and asking people to join.

Among the news items were:

- 1) A letter from Legionnaire President Dwight D. Eisenhower to his fellow Legionnaires sending his greetings on the occasion of The American Legion's 36th birthday.
- 2) Final membership figures for 1954. Post 1, Omaha, Neb., again came out on top in its race with Post 1, Denver, Colo., for honors as largest Post in the Legion. Final figures showed Omaha with 11,233 members, Denver with 11,174.

Final Nat'l membership figures for 1954 were 2,797,649.

In all 49 Posts in 24 Departments had more than 2,000 members each. Newcomers to group included Post 135, Savannah, Ga.; Post 26, Minot, N. Dak.; Post 5, East Liberty, Pa.; and Post 3, Kingsport, Tenn.

## THE FLAG:

## When Is A Platform?

In April, 1953, The American Legion Nat'l Americanism Commission suggested seven changes to the Flag Law, Public Law 829. One change, that dealing with Section 3 (k), would help clarify one of the most confusing matters of flag etiquette.

The Nat'l Americanism Commission receives constant inquiries relating to



## Try the Calvert "Lo-Ball" less-filling, more flavorful!

Calvert tastes so good — we want you to try it in a way you can really taste it . . . in a Calvert "Lo-Ball".

Only a whiskey that is rich in flavor—yet *smoother going down*—can be enjoyed like this. Just pour a generous jigger of Calvert over ice, add a splash of mixer — and there you are. It's really *satisfying*!



### SPECIAL OFFER: \$2.38 value only \$1.00

SEND ME \_\_\_\_\_ sets of 4 specially-designed Calvert "Lo-Ball" glasses, with my initial hand-carved and recipe folder. I enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover cost of glasses and mailing. (Enclose \$1.00 for each set. Limit of 3 sets.)



My initial, to be hand-carved on glasses, is \_\_\_\_\_ (One initial only)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print)

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to Calvert, Box 5068-AL, Chicago, Ill.

(Offer void if taxed, prohibited, or otherwise restricted by state or municipal laws. Limited to U.S.A., its territories and possessions. Delivery takes about four weeks. Offer expires July 31, 1955.)

proper display of the Flag, and this one section alone accounts for several hundred per year.

It says in part "... if it [the Flag] is displayed in a chancel of a church or on the speaker's platform in a public auditorium, the flag should occupy the position of honor and be placed at the clergyman's or speaker's right as he faces the congregation or audience. But when the flag is displayed from a staff in a church or public auditorium elsewhere then in the chancel or on the platform, it shall be placed in the position of honor at the right of the congregation or audience as they face the chancel or platform."

Problem: What is a platform? Suppose you have a speaker addressing an audience, but there is no platform. Do you place the flag to the right of the audience as you would if there were no speaker? Or do you place the flag to the right of the speaker?

The Americanism Commission advises that in any situation in which a person is facing an audience, it should be assumed that this is a "platform" situation, and the flag should be to the speaker's right, platform or no platform.

While the Americanism Commission hoped that the clarifying interpretation would help solve the annoying problem, it pressed at the same time for a presidential order which would strike the offending section from the law and replace it with a more logical definition.

#### POLIO:

### So Little Time

State and local health agencies in the U. S., Hawaii and Alaska must respond to a calculated risk situation in the next 30 days in order to have a chance to whip polio this year.

The risk: Time is so short before the end of school and the onset of hot polio weather that health agencies must begin to set up machinery immediately to use the Salk polio vaccine, and find out later if it works.

Results of last year's mammoth test of the vaccine are scheduled to be released in April, upon completion of evaluation studies at the University of Michigan.

Unless state and local plans to use it this summer are well under way before then, the best chance to take advantage of the vaccine this year (if it works) will be lost.

Facts, figures and calculations (all based on the assumptions that the Salk vaccine prevents paralysis from polio and will be licensed by the Federal government) follow:

Drug makers are going ahead with orders from the March of Dimes to

make enough of the Salk preparation to vaccinate 9 million children this year.

In addition, the drug makers will make some of the vaccine available for prescription by private doctors.

If state and local health agencies are ready to give the vaccinations, enough of the drug purchased with March of Dimes funds will be released to them to vaccinate every 1st and 2nd grade child whose parents request it, as well as all those school children who took part in last year's test as a control group and did not get the vaccine (more than half of the 1,830,000 children who were part of the test.)

1st and 2nd graders are in the highest polio-incidence group.

Use of the vaccine this year would not be a test. It would be the first use of it for the purpose of preventing paralysis.

Free vaccination in the projected school program for 1st and 2nd graders whose parents request it should be started—and preferably finished—before school ends.

Complete vaccination requires three shots, given over a five week period.

The school program would be conducted by local health agencies and co-operating local medical personnel, in conjunction with plans of state and territorial health agencies.

The planning necessary to get a five week vaccination program going that will be completed before the end of school leaves no time for health agencies at any level to wait for the final evalua-

tion of the vaccine before taking their first steps.

American Legion, and its Child Welfare Commission, have backed March of Dimes' effort to control polio. It would be in line with Legion policy for Posts to offer any assistance possible to local health agencies and March of Dimes chapters (Nat'l Foundation for Infantile Paralysis) which attempt to get vaccination program organized in the time left before the hot polio weather.

Expectation, though yet unproved, is that Salk vaccine will be valuable in controlling polio.

#### LOVESICK ELEPHANT:

The American Legion Post Activity that takes the cake as the most unusual of 1954 was pulled off by the C. Maryland Kelly, Jr., Post 174, Baltimore, Md. That Post bought a jilted, lovesick elephant, and had it moved from Washington, D. C., to Baltimore in the midst of Hurricane Hazel, the worst storm to hit the eastern U. S. in three years.

The Post got into this deal because part of its youth activity program includes sponsorship of improvements at the Baltimore Zoo.

In 1948, it had donated three full-grown Polar bears to the city. Later, when these bears failed to thrive in their new surroundings, the Post purchased three Norwegian Polar bear cubs which have been major attractions at the Baltimore Zoo since their arrival in 1951.

Last year the Post heard about Jenny, an eight-year old Indian elephant in



Unfriendly Winds — Crate containing Jenny the elephant tilts precariously when struck by sudden gusts from Hurricane Hazel at end of Washington-Baltimore trip.

Washington. Jenny had been jilted. She was the third, or unwanted, member of an elephant love triangle at the Nat'l Zoological Park in Washington, D. C., frozen out by her cage partners, Ashok and Shanti. Dr. William Mann, Director of the Washington Zoo, did not have a separate cage in which to house Jenny and she acted so badly that he felt that he should sell her to prevent "a difficult situation from becoming even more difficult." At this point, Post 174 came up with the ideal solution to Dr. Mann's problem as well as Jenny's: the Post



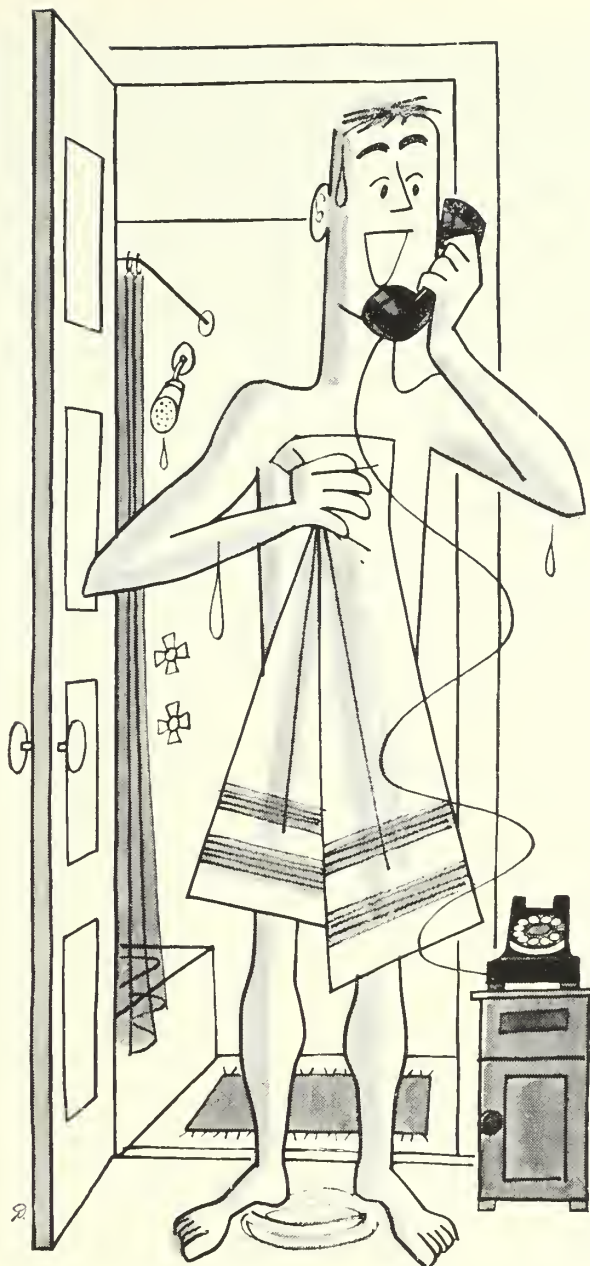
Elephant and Friends — Left to right: Joseph Van Collom, Chmn of Post 174's zoo committee; Arthur Watson, Director of the Baltimore Zoo; Paul E. Franz, Cmdr, C. Marland Kelly, Jr., Post 174.

would buy Jenny and present her to the Baltimore Zoo.

Although the solution was ideal, Hurricane Hazel struck just at the time that Jenny was being moved to Baltimore. Ordinarily, the move might have been postponed until better weather arrived. But zoo officials felt that it was better to attempt the hazardous trip during the storm because Jenny had been a bit reluctant to get into the crate which was used for the transfer. So the move was on.

Everything went well until hurricane winds struck Jenny's crate as it was being lifted from a truck in Baltimore. Jenny was jolted almost through the crate when a cable slipped off it. Fortunately, an emergency rope kept the crate from falling to the ground.

Safely on the ground at last, Jenny was turned loose in the enclosed yard of the elephant house. But she still wasn't happy. Despite urging, she would not go inside the house. Then Trixie, one of Jenny's new roommates, came outside and trumpeted a greeting. Jenny calmed down. The two new acquaintances walked around together and then went inside where they joined Minnie and Sarah, the other inhabitants of the elephant house. Then, as Baltimore Zoo Director Arthur R. Watson put



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*there's a telephone right here, too"*

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He knows that running down-stairs or from room to room to telephone is an unnecessary waste of time and energy . . . when additional telephones, conveniently placed, cost so little.

Great thing for Mother, too.

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it "... what sounded like a real gab fest got started." Watson thinks that Jenny's liking for her new home will last. And there won't be another triangle to break Jenny's heart, because there's not a male elephant in sight.

#### ORGANIZATIONS:

### A Helping Hand

The wide-spread interests of The American Legion are reflected in its work with other organizations. Cooperation with other groups in projects of mutual interest occurs on Post, Dep't and Nat'l levels. Some recent examples are:

✧ The Ground Observer Corps (GOC). As part of its scouting program, The American Legion is now recruiting scouts to serve as observers for the Air Defense Command of the Air Force.

First tried in the Dep't of Illinois, the program was adopted as a Nat'l program by the Nat'l Executive Committee in May, 1954.

These Posts which sponsor Boy Scout Troops are asked to get scouts over 14 years of age interested in the seriously undermanned observer program. The GOC, which now numbers 400,000 members, will eventually require over a million observers and the Air Defense Command hopes to use Legionnaires and Scouts to fill out its force.

Posts sponsoring Boy Scout Troops and wishing to participate in the new program can get information by writing for the brochure *The American Legion Boy Scout Program in the Ground Observer Corps*. Address: Nat'l Security Division, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind.

✧ Boy Clubs of America. According to recent reports, The American Legion through its Posts, assists more Boys Clubs than any other organization in the nation. Original Legion endorsement of the program dates from action of the Nat'l Executive Committee in May, 1947.

The clubs are designed to provide a place for boys to engage under trained leadership in activities such as arts and crafts, sports, reading, music and drama. The Boys Clubs of America have designated March 21 through 27 Boys Club Week for 1955. Theme of the week is "Operation Juvenile Decency." It stresses the fact that the majority of American youths are essentially good.

✧ Goodwill Industries. The handicapped employees of Goodwill Industries repair discarded clothing which is later sold through Goodwill retail stores to provide wages for the workers.

In early January, the Dep't of Illinois announced its backing of a drive to provide clothing for Goodwill plants in

Chicago, Peoria, Rockford and Springfield. Legion Posts in Illinois will collect old clothing for the plant nearest their communities.

Stressing the use of handicapped workers by Goodwill Industries, Dep't Cmdr Irving Breakstone urges all 250,000 Illinois Legionnaires to respond to the appeal. Maurice O'Connor was named as Chmn of the drive.

✧ Olympic Committee. In mid-January, Legionnaire Edward P. F. Eagan, Chmn of the U. S. Olympic Finance Committee, announced the first donation to the Olympic Fund by a Legion Post. Post 209, New York, N. Y., sent in a check for \$100 to go toward financing American participation in the 1956 Olympic Games.

In announcing the donation, Eagan pointed out that nearly \$1,000,000 will be needed to send teams to the Pan American games at Mexico City this month, the Winter games in Italy and the 16th Olympiad in Melbourne, Australia, in 1956.

Olympic Committee offices are at the Biltmore Hotel, New York, N. Y.

#### BRIEFLY NOTED:

✧ An item about a French Government Tourist Office brochure appeared in "Briefly Noted" in the January issue. The item was partially in error. It should have read: A colorful, illustrated brochure giving a day-by-day description of the landings and battle in Normandy, Corsica, and Provence has been made available, free of charge, to American Legion Posts. Brochures, containing a colored map, will be mailed postpaid upon request to the French Government Tourist Office, 610 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.

✧ The Society of the First Division is preparing to make a WW2 addition to the First Division Monument in Washington, D. C., and has started compiling names of its battle dead. The Society hopes to have representatives of the families of the battle dead present when the addition to the monument is dedicated. But the addresses of the families are not available through the usual channels. The Society, therefore, seeks to contact the families of the Division's WW2 battle dead. Send relative's name and address, with name, rank, organization and serial number (if known) of the battle dead to: Society of The First Division, 5309 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia 44, Pa.

✧ The California State Legislature has adopted a concurrent resolution urging Gov. Goodwin J. Knight to declare Aug. 6, 1955, "American Junior Baseball Day" in that State.

✧ The 10th annual Boys' Nation will be held on the campus of the Univ. of

Maryland at College Park, July 22-29. Two boys from each of the 1955 Boys' States will be selected to attend Boys' Nation.

✧ Over \$5,000 worth of prizes, including \$2,000 in cash, is offered in the 9th Annual Nat'l Writing Contest for Hospitalized Veterans. Contest opened Feb. 15, closes Apr. 15. Vets in any hospital are eligible to enter. Vets in VA hospitals can get contest information by asking for *Contest News* from rehab and recreation offices or from the library. Vets in other hospitals may send a self-addressed envelope to Hospitalized Veterans Writing Project, Inc., 1020 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Ill.

✧ A memorial, consisting of 450 memorial lamps and a group of statues portraying the Crucifixion, was dedicated to "The American Legion Beyond the Grave" by Father J. F. Kempinski at the St. Raphael Mission, Pine Bluff, Ark. The Color Guard of Post 32, Pine Bluff, participated in the dedication ceremony. The lamps will be lighted on the third Sunday of each month, on Memorial Day and on Veterans Day.

✧ Rep. Gordon L. McDonough (R-Calif.) has introduced a bill proposing that the Congress enact legislation to designate Flag Day, June 14, a legal holiday. If it becomes law, the bill (H.R. 323) will carry out provisions of a resolution from the Dep't of Missouri which was unanimously adopted by the 36th Nat'l Convention of The American Legion in Washington, D. C., last year.

✧ Gen. Mark W. Clark, Nat'l Chmn of The American Heart Ass'n, announced that the ass'n raised more than \$11,250,000 in 1954. More than half of this amount is to go into research grants and fellowships. Heart Ass'n was launched on its present nationwide program in 1946, with a joint contribution of \$50,000 from The American Legion and its Auxiliary.

✧ Fifteen officers (four Dep't Vice Cmdrs & 11 District Cmdrs) of The American Legion from Wisconsin will accompany their Dep't Cmdr, James A. Martineau, to Nat'l Hq in Indianapolis during the meetings of the Nat'l Executive Committee, May 4-6. The trip will be in the nature of a reward for their membership efforts and as a part of the Dep't of Wisconsin program to acquaint Dep't and District officers with the Nat'l organization.

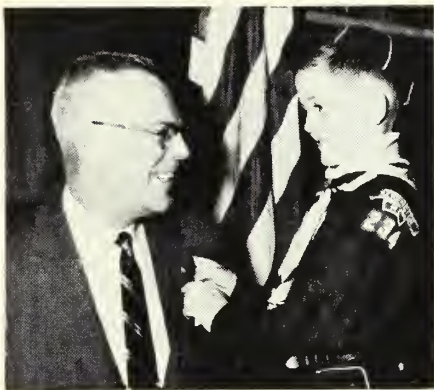
✧ Statistics released by The American Legion Child Welfare Div. seem to indicate that families are getting bigger. Last year, families of vets aided by the Nat'l Child Welfare Div. had an average of 3.42 children. In 1953, the average was 3.28; in 1952, 3.25; in 1951, 3.22; and in 1933, a mere 2.8.

✧ Dep't of Italy announces that its 1955

Convention will be held in Viareggio, June 4-6.

Elmer W. Kuhlmann, Dep't Cmdr of Missouri, reports that there were no traffic fatalities in that State on S-D (Safe Driving) Day, last Dec. 15. Each Post in Dep't of Missouri had been requested to secure cooperation and participation of each Legionnaire in S-D Day. Cmdr Kuhlmann explained the Legion's part in S-D Day and its constant fight for safe driving when he spoke on a weekly radio program of the St. Louis Police Dep't. The Nat'l Americanism Div, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis 6, Ind., would like to receive reports from other Departments concerning American Legion participation in the S-D Day program.

### CUB PINS, CMDR GRINS



Cub Scout Peter S. Lothrop of Pack 234, Kensington, Md., pins Nat'l Cmdr Collins with the Boy Scouts of America emblem in recognition of Legion's sponsorship of more than 4,000 Scout Troops.

Dep't of New Mexico has enrolled 122.38 percent of its membership quota and now has a greater number of members than it ever had before.

The Dep't of West Virginia's claim that the oldest woman American Legionnaire may be Mrs. Bernadine D. Means, 90, of Martinsburg, has brought prompt additional information on the subject from Jane A. Delano Post No. 344, New York, N. Y.

Jane A. Delano Post, composed of nurses who have served in the Armed Forces, advises it has two members whose ages top Mrs. Means'. They are:

Miss Amy Patmore, 91, of New York City who was born Sept. 30, 1863.

Miss Sarah Nelson, 90, now of Dayton, Ohio, born March 9, 1864. Mrs. Means was born on December 26, 1864.

Both Miss Patmore and Miss Nelson have been members of The American Legion since Oct. 1919. Miss Patmore served for many years as a member of the N. Y. Dep't Rehab Committee.

Duane H. Eckel, Post 429, Lovington, Ill., puts in his claim for the title of youngest Legionnaire. Eckel, a USAF vet born on April 21, 1936, is less than 19 years of age.

Dep't of Georgia has made available



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copies of Nat'l Child Welfare scholarship booklet *Need A Lift?* as a service to all Posts, high schools and libraries in the State.

#### RECENT POST DOINGS:

Post 391 at 9:00 p.m.; Jan. 13. At 5:00 a.m., Jan. 14, his home and all belongings were completely destroyed by fire. By 6:30 a.m., Post 391 had provided the vet, his wife and two small children with emergency clothing and \$25.00. A short time later, Post found him a new home, moved his family into it, and obtained additional clothing for the fire victims.

Post 121, Lynden, Wash., presented a check for \$600 to the police dept of that city for the purchase of a two-way radio. Post Cmdr Irwin J. LeCoeq presented the check to the mayor, who is his father and also a member of Post 121.

Mention in this column of the fact that some Posts include several members who are relatives seems to have made other Legionnaires aware that their Posts too are unusual in this respect. For instance:

In Harrisburg, Ill., there are six Hull brothers and six Shewmake brothers in Post 167. In Ste. Marie, Ill., Post 932 has six Huss brothers on its membership rolls. In Gadsden, Ala., J. P. Burke, Past Cmdr of Post 5, got his five members for '55 from the ranks of relatives; among the five are three Burke daughters. In Gloversville, N. Y., there are three husband and wife teams among the officers of Post and Unit 137 and two other Unit officers are wives of Past Post Commanders.

Post 68, Hutchinson, Kans., entertained approximately 400 needy children at a Christmas party in the hotel which Post operates in Hutchinson.

Post 3, Mount Vernon, N. Y., gave an American Flag to the Salvation Army Service Center in that community.

Building of Post 28, Duluth, Minn., is the meeting site for four additional posts (including Post 160, Canadian Legion). Post, which had 1179 members in 1954, maintains full-time secretaries for all Posts in its building.

Post 506, Emden, Ill., donated a \$600 resuscitator and inhalator unit to the Emden Volunteer Fire Dept. The instrument has a 25-foot extension and can be used on two persons at the same time.

Post 178, Lewiston, Maine, donated a boxing and wrestling ring and ring equipment to the VA Center at Togus. Funds for these purchases come from boxing and wrestling tournaments staged by the Post. Post also has provided a baseball scoreboard to be erected at the Togus field.

Post 30, Albany, Ga., helped add a touch of realism to an escape and evasion problem conducted for personnel of Turner Air Force Base. Members of the Post patrolled the city of Albany with Dougherty County policemen in an attempt to round up the "escaped" air-men.

When Post 65, Whitewater, Kans., decided to erect a new Post building to replace the old one, it conducted carnivals, donkey ball games, plays, etc., to raise funds. But costs were still beyond its reach. The membership made donations to swell the building fund. The community saw what the Post was doing and unsolicited donations from non-Legion sources began to pour in. Post members pitched in to do the work of razing the old structure and building the new. Results: (1) Post has a new Home, built almost entirely by voluntary labor of the membership; (2) new Post Home serves as a community building for the town. The new Home has recently been the scene of: a family reunion of 78 persons; a series of dancing classes; a New Year's Eve party sponsored by the Post and Unit for high school pupils and their parents. Post membership for 1955 has surpassed the previous high of 65; 71 members were enrolled as of Jan. 5.

By Dec. 31, 1954, Post 20, Fort Gibson, Okla., had exceeded 400 per cent of its assigned quota for 1955.

Post 46, Marshalltown, Iowa, takes possession on March 1, of a farm it has purchased. Post intends to build a golf course on the land.

#### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS:

Judge Richard B. Ott, Past Nat'l Vice Cmdr (1947-48), appointed a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Washington.

Henry L. Stevens, Jr., Past Dep't Cmdr of North Carolina (1925-26), has begun his third elective eight-year term as Judge of the Superior Court of North Carolina.

Robert Joiner, Adj't of Dep't of Georgia, is in the VA Hospital, Dublin, Ga.

Arthur H. Clarke, member of Nat'l Executive Committee from Michigan, presented with a citation by the Mich. Savings & Loan League, for his services to the savings and loan business in Michigan.

Charles N. Collatos, Dep't Cmdr of Massachusetts, appointed Chmn of the 1955 Crusade for America Drive for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Bradley R. Taylor, Vice Chmn of The American Legion Nat'l Legislative Commission, hospitalized in Chicago, Ill., after having undergone surgery.

Isadore E. Levine, former member

of Nat'l Executive Committee from Indiana (1935-43), named a Judge of the Indiana Supreme Court.

Lawrence J. Centola, Ass't Adj't of Dep't of Louisiana, appointed Acting Dep't Adjutant.

L. A. (Bill) Williams, of Seattle, Wash., appointed to Nat'l Legislative Commission, to fill the unexpired term of George E. Flood, deceased.

Robert D. Morrow (Miss.) resigned from Nat'l Executive Committee, to run for office of State Treasurer.

#### Died

Matt Monaghan, Dep't Adj't and Finance Officer of Louisiana, suddenly, in New Orleans, La.

Dr. H. Nelson Jackson, member of Nat'l Executive Committee from Vermont, in Burlington, Vt. He was a Past Nat'l Vice Commander (1921-22), and was credited with having completed the first transcontinental tour by automobile from San Francisco to New York.

## COMRADES IN DISTRESS

Space does not permit notices to contact persons for any purpose except to assist in establishing a claim for a veteran or his dependents. Statement to that effect should accompany notice.

#### Army

28th Div, 109th Inf—While on maneuvers in Louisiana during the period Aug.-Oct., 1942, Lt. John C. Purvey (Medical Officer) fell from a jeep and seriously injured his back. The injury led to surgery, and Purvey was hospitalized at Camp Livingston, La., and later in the 123rd General Hospital in Hereford, England. His widow wishes to hear from anyone who knows about the injury or who served with this unit. Write Mrs. John C. Purvey, 54 Elm-hurst St., Crystal Lake, Ill. Claim pending.

537th Field Artillery Bn, Battery A—In Sept., 1950, I suffered gunpowder burns at Camp Carson, Colo. I was hospitalized for about a week at Camp Carson and about four months at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital. Anyone who remembers me or who knows of my having been injured write me, Elvin Russell, Box 256, Cogswell, N. Dak.

1st Cav Div, 12th Cav Reg't, Co G (WW2)—In order to establish claim, Harold H. Sauters needs to hear from anyone who served with him. Write Harold H. Sauters, Route 2, Lyons, Kans.

71st Chemical Mortar Bn, Co A—While engaged in hand-to-hand combat training at Fort McClellan, Ala., in 1945, I was thrown over the shoulder of a soldier named Bowen. My back was injured. Witnesses to this incident were: my commanding officer, Joe B. Lindsey; Sgt Phillips. I now need to hear from them or from anyone who recalls the incident. Write me, Horace Hulsey, Route 1, Cleveland, Ga. Claim pending.

27th AA Group (AW), Hq Battery: Hq 66th Brigade; 589th Searchlight Bn, Battery B; Hq 5th Casual Reg't—While serving with these units during the period 1943-45, I suffered frequent blackout spells. In order to establish claim, I need to hear from someone who remembers my having passed out, especially on the endurance hikes. Write me, Richard C. Risner, Sr., 610 E. East 61st, Vancouver, Wash.

339th Inf, Co M—Need to contact Dick Fry (it is not certain that this spelling of Fry's name is correct) of north Detroit, Mich. Fry served with Orville H. Thrasher in 1917-18. Write Charles W. Lindell, 9225 Cypress, Fontana, Calif. Claim pending.

2004th Engr Bn—Need to hear from anyone who served with me in England in 1943, and who remembers that I had epileptic seizures. I was called the "Indian." Write me, Raymond Hayes, Rt. 1, Box 27A, Bronson, Tex. Claim pending.

Camp Lee, Va., 8th QM Reg't, Hq Detachment—In

order to establish claim, I need to contact Lt Harold Sholl and Sgt Donald Hinkley who were in **Special Services** with me. Lt Sholl was my commanding officer; Sgt Hinkley was an artist who worked with me. Both are thought to have been from Illinois. Write me, Leon F. Silkowski, 717 Main St., Swoyersville, Kingston Branch P.O., Pa.

**20th Inf, Co F**—In order to establish claim, W. E. Frost needs to hear from Louis (Dick) Windrich whose last known address was St. Louis, Mo. Anyone who knows Windrich's address contact W. E. Frost, Route 1, Harrah, Okla.

**40th Div, 160th Inf, Co C**—In order to establish claim, I need to contact anyone who served under Capt Hardy and with Sgt Raymond E. Jarnigan and me during Mar. and Apr. 1953, in the Wachan Valley, Korea. Write me, (former Plc) **George R. Green**, 1527 North "C" St., Elwood, Ind.

**652nd Tank Destroyer Bn, Co C**—At Camp Howze, Tex., July 10, 1944, a limb of a tree fell on the tank which **Pvt Glenn C. Pullins** was backing. The hatch was up and it fell on Pullins' head and knocked him unconscious for an hour or more. He was not hospitalized. His widow (who has three children) now seeks to establish a claim. She needs to hear from those who served with Pullins, from the medics who treated him, or from anyone who knows of the incident. Write her, Mrs. Helen L. Pullins, 514 E. Elm St., Rensselaer, Ind.

**82nd Div, 307th Engineers Co C**—In Oct., 1918, I was gassed north of Flaville. The aid man who treated John King for wounds told me that he had nothing to stop me from vomiting, but that he could give me a tag. Because of the heavy shellfire and machine gun fire, I did not wait. Need to hear from anyone who recalls my having been gassed. Write me (former Cpl) **David Vickers**, 86 Darrow St., Quincy, Mass.

**15th AAA Bn (AW), Battery C (Korea)**—In order to establish claim, I need to hear from Howard Bell, Edward Fobes or Robert Kyle. Write me (former Cpl) **Charles L. Gordon**, Sterling, Nebr.

**Camp Butner, N.C., Station Hospital, Ward 69**—In order to establish claim, I wish to hear from Leslie V. Glass, Negro, who was in this ward prior to Sept. 12, 1944. I entered the hospital the day Glass was released. I received Glass's mail there and by mistake opened one letter from his wife in Calif.; I wrote him asking forgiveness. Glass served with a Negro outfit then at Camp Butner; I served with the **89th Div, 341st Field Artillery Bn, Hq Battery**. We were privates; he Negro and I White. Our records are somewhat mixed, and I wish to contact him in order to have them corrected. Anyone who knows his whereabouts write me, **Leslie V. Glass**, Rt. 1, Burbank, Okla.

**198th AAA Bn, Battery B**—In the Philippines in 1945-46, S/Sgt Francis M. Viveiros was treated for an ear condition. He wishes to contact anyone, especially Mess Sgt William J. Spano, who knows of this ear condition. Write **Francis M. Viveiros**, 8 Greene St., Anthony, R.I.

**Fort Sam Houston, Tex., 38th Field Artillery, Hq Battery**—I served with this outfit from 1940 to about 1943; and from about 1943 to 1945, in the **2nd Armored Div** in the ETO. In order to establish claim, I need to hear from anyone who served with me. Write me, **Henry R. (Skinny) Richmond**, VA Hospital, Waco, Texas.

**3rd Div, 3rd Signal Co (1942)**—On the march to board the train for Hampton Roads, Va., for maneuvers, a vertebra was pressed into my spinal cord. I was returned to the barracks in the (Lt Col) Chaplain's vehicle. I now need to hear from any one who was in the 3rd Signal Co at that time. Write me, **Edward N. Johnston**, Box 272, St. Cloud, Fla.

**Fort Myer, Va., 2511th SCU**—In order to establish claim, I need to hear from anyone who remembers my having had trouble with my feet while serving with the **WAC Detachment**. Especially need to hear from Maj Martin and Capt Vargas who served at the **Station Hospital** and who treated me for badly swollen feet in early 1945. Write me, **Jane E. Cameron**, 202 H St., So. Boston 27, Mass.

## Navy

**Armed Guard, SS Samoset**—In order to establish claim, I need to contact members of the Armed Guard who served aboard this ship on or about July 1, 1945. Write **George E. Baue**, 1212 Butler Ave., New Castle, Pa.

**Gulian, P. I. (Samar)**—In Aug. or Sept. 1945, I was in **Fleet Hospital 114, Ward D-3**, where my eye was operated upon and I was fitted with glasses. Lt Evelyn Pabst was a nurse on duty in that ward. I was a Fireman 1st Class; I served aboard **LCI 717**. At an army hospital on Mindoro I received treatment for fungus in my ears. Neither of these treatments was listed in my service record. In order to establish claim, I need to hear from someone who knows of these treatments. Especially need to know the whereabouts of Lt Evelyn Pabst. I may be remembered as the sailor who had the pet squirrel, "Frisky." Write me, **Edward W. Stewart**, Box 6, Kissimmee, Fla.

**CBMU 597 attached to ACORN 39**—In order to establish claim, I need to contact men who

served with me on Tinian. Write me, **Allen Kuykendall**, Rt. 1, Corinth, Miss.

**USMC—Sgt William H. Morrissey** served in the Marine Corps from July 1942 to Mar. 1946; he was in the Pacific Theatre from Nov. 1942 to Dec. 1943. He was injured on the rifle range at El Centro, Calif. His widow thinks that this injury occurred in 1944, but she is not certain. Morrissey was also injured in a boxing match. In order to establish claim, his widow (who has four children), needs to hear from anyone who served with her late husband, especially from those who know of any injuries he received in the service. Write Mrs. William Morrissey, Star Route, North Creek, N. Y.

**15th CB (Special)**—In early 1944, I suffered a back injury while loading cargo in New Guinea. I was taken from the ship and put in sick bay for about 30 days. During these 30 days I was treated almost daily by a navy doctor named Hawkins. I do not know the outfit to which Dr. Hawkins was assigned. In order to establish claim, I need to hear from medical corpsmen and Dr. Hawkins or from someone who knows Dr. Hawkins' full name and address (or at least his home State). Write me, **Samuel Thompson**, 3521 Jefferson St., Miami, Fla.

**USS Timbalier (AVP 54)**—From about Dec. 1, 1947, to about Sept. 1, 1951, **LaVere Lee Lowe** served aboard this ship, which was in drydock in Norfolk, Va., and was in Panama and Cuba during this period. Lowe was seriously injured while on an island during this same period. He is now deceased and his mother seeks to establish a claim. In order to do so, she needs to hear from those who served aboard this ship at the time her son was aboard. She particularly recalls Billy Johnson. Write her, Mrs. L. W. Lowe, Sr., 307 E. Jackson, Paris, Ill.

**Transport Leadstown**—In order to establish claim, I need to hear from Lt Comdr Duncan Cook or from anyone who was aboard the Leadstown when she was sunk off Africa, Nov. 6, or 8, 1942. She was behind the **Thomas Stone** when that vessel was hit. Also need to hear from anyone who knows of my fall down the ladder and of my back injury, or from anyone aboard the **USS Tuscaloosa** who knows of my back condition. Write me, **Ernest L. McCraw**, Box 236, Florence, Wis.

## Air

**San Angelo Army Air Field, Tex., (1945-6)**—While loading bombs, I fell from the catwalk and

injured my head and back. I was treated at the Base Hospital by Capt Snodgrass and 1st Lt E. M. Chandler. T/Sgt Davenport (his first name is probably Dwight or Duane) was 1st Chief in Flight D; M/Sgt Roy Hooe was also a 1st Chief at the base. In order to establish claim, I need to hear from the men mentioned above or from anyone who knows of my injury. Write me, **Audy J. Matala**, Ward 7W, VA Hospital, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**373rd Bomb Sqdn (Yontan Air Base, Okinawa)**—While returning from a swimming party, I was thrown from the back of the six-by-six truck (which was pulling a water tank trailer) when the truck hit a bump. A right wheel of the tank trailer hit me in the back. I got up; no apparent harm had been done. A week later, my back began to hurt intensely. Our Flight Surgeon, Maj Charles S. Baldini (of New York), sent me to the 9th Station Hospital for treatment. My back has bothered me ever since. When I was discharged from the service Jan. 9, 1946, I filed a claim; VA held that my injury did not entitle me to 10% disability. However, on Aug. 7, 1954, I was operated upon at Newton D. Baker VA Center. I now wear a brace to support my back. In order to establish claim, I need to hear from the others who were in the truck with me, from the Flight Surgeon, and from anyone who knows of the incident. I was a member of 1st Jack E. Foster's crew. Write me, (former Sgt) **William T. McCullough**, 10 Third Ave., Ridgeley, W. Va.

**24th Tech School Sqdn (Fort Logan, Colo.)**—Need to hear from anyone who remembers **Ulysses G. Queener** (known as "Kentucky") having been carried from the barrack to the Station Hospital during Nov. and Dec., 1942. Write **Ulysses G. Queener**, 310 N. 19th St., Louisville, Ky. Claim pending.

**9th Air Force, 404th Fighter Group, 508th Sqdn**—In order to establish claim, I need to contact Capt Normand E. Goulders, 508th Sqdn Doctor, who was at St. Trond, Belgium and Fritzlar, Germany in 1945. Anyone having any information concerning Dr. Goulders' whereabouts write me, **Vernon P. Price**, Rt. 2, Miller, Mo.

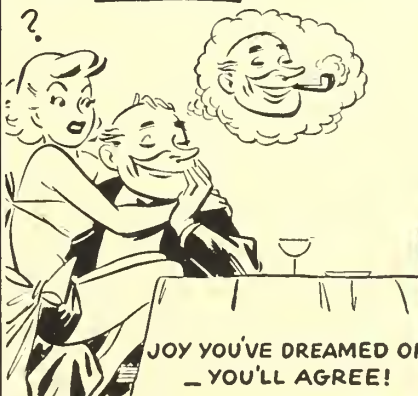
**20th Troop Carrier Sqdn**—In order to establish claim, I need to contact Maj Sanders, Sgt Watson, or Sgt Dobbins who served in Panama in 1944. Write me, **Kenneth S. Heptonstall**, 2 Stuart Ave., Chateaugay, N. Y.

**Shamshanagra, India, 1347th AAF, Hq & Hq Sqdn**—In order to establish claim, I need to contact Maj Bobby Boyd (CO of Hq and II Sqdn),

## IT SMELLS GRAND



## IT SMOKES SWEET



## IT PACKS RIGHT



## IT CAN'T BITE!

SIR WALTER RALEIGH'S BLEND OF CHOICE KENTUCKY BURLEYS IS EXTRA-AGED TO GUARD AGAINST TONGUE BITE.

**FREE!**

24-PAGE BOOKLET ON PIPE CARE. JUST WRITE TO: SIR WALTER RALEIGH, DEPT. A5 LOUISVILLE, KY.



M/Set Thomas B. McCabe, Cpl Eddy, Sgt Atkins. Anyone knowing the address of any of these men write me, (former Plc) William B. Brookins, 1903 North Hancock, Odessa, Tex.

**35th Fighter Group, 41st Fighter Sqdn (Apr., 1942)**—J. T. Cavett (probably a cpl at the time) was missing while the squadron was at New Castle, Australia. The CO ordered all men who went on pass to bring Cavett back to camp if he could be found. 1st Sgt O'Brien found him in an Australian Red Cross Hospital. Cavett needs to hear from anyone, especially 1st Sgt O'Brien, who remembers the incident. Write **John T. Cavett**, Veterans Housing, Apt. 7, Woodward, Okla.

## OUTFIT REUNIONS

Notices restricted to those which give: Name of outfit; date; city; meeting place of reunion; name and address of person to contact for additional information.

### Army

**3rd Armored Div Ass'n**—Convention, St. Louis, Mo.; July 28-30; Hotel Jefferson. Write Paul W. Corrigan, 80 Federal St., Boston, Mass.

**4th Armored Div Ass'n**—9th annual convention, Boston, Mass.; June 23-25; Hotel Statler. Info from Anthony J. Passanante, P.O. Box 42, Arlington, N. J.

**5th Armored Div**—9th annual reunion, St. Louis, Mo.; Aug. 4-6; Hotel Jefferson. For info write Mrs. Roy S. Watrous, 8549 Lowell St., St. Louis 15, Mo.

**37th Div.**—37th annual reunion, Dayton, Ohio; Sept. 2-5; Biltmore Hotel. Contact Jack R. McGuire, 21 W. Broad St., Room 1101, Columbus 15, Ohio.

**42nd (Rainbow) Div**—Annual reunion, Omaha, Neb.; July 13-15; Hotel Fontenelle. Contact Howard Brace, 6629 N. 35th St., Omaha, Neb.

**75th Div Vets Ass'n**—Annual convention, New York, N. Y.; Aug. 4-7; Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Carl S. Friesed, 914 - 50th St., Brooklyn 19, N. Y.

**83rd (Thunderbolt) Div (WW2)**—9th annual reunion, Philadelphia, Pa.; Aug. 18-20; Ben Franklin Hotel. Details from George Cooley, Sr., 1459 Beechwood St., N. E., Warren, Ohio.

**U. S. Army Ambulance Service Ass'n**—36th annual reunion, Buffalo, N. Y.; July 14-16; Statler Hotel. Write Frank J. Williams, 29 Crescent Ave., Buffalo 14, N. Y.

**263rd CA Reg't (HD)**—Reunion, Charleston, S. C.; Mar. 4-6; Francis Marion Hotel. Info from T. Legare Rodgers, P. O. Box 207, Beaufort, S. C.

**238th AAA Bn (Gun 90mm)**—2nd annual reunion, New London, Conn.; Mar. 5; Gam Ball Room, Ocean Beach. Contact WOJG Raymond O. Durant, Jr., State Armory, New London, Conn.

**133rd Inf, 2nd Bn**—Reunion, Mason City, Iowa; March 20; VFW Hall. Info from Bob Furnish, 928 11th, N. E., Mason City, Iowa.

**63rd CAC, Battery F (WW1)**—36th annual reunion and banquet, Tacoma, Wash.; Mar. 19; Hotel Winthrop. Contact Jim Copeland, 1112 So. 23rd St., Tacoma 5, Wash.

**14th Engineers Vets Ass'n (WW1)**—35th annual reunion dinner and dance, Boston, Mass.; Mar. 19, Hotel Lenox. Write George H. Fyre, 31a Martin St., Revere 51, Mass.

**131st Inf, Co C (all wars)**—Reunion (including families), Chicago, Ill.; Apr. 16; Majestic Hotel. Details from Bill Collins, 1000 No. Crosby, Chicago 10, Ill.

**317th Field Signal Bn**—37th annual reunion, Boston, Mass.; Apr. 23; Parker House. Info from I. C. Austin, 180 Prescott St., Reading, Mass.

**79th Div MP Ass'n (WW1)**—Farewell reunion, Philadelphia, Pa.; Apr. 23; Childs (1425 Chestnut St.). Contact Henry G. March, 5501 N. 5th St., Philadelphia 20, Pa.

**104 Inf Vets Ass'n**—Reunion, Worcester, Mass.; Apr. 29-30; Hotel Sheraton. For info write Albert S. Richardson, 411 Burncoat St., Worcester 6, Mass.

**15th Engineers**—36th annual reunion, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Apr. 30; Fort Pitt Hotel. For info write W. H. Turner, 238 8th Ave., Laurel Gardens, Pa.

**307th Inf Vets Ass'n**—7th annual reunion, Cedar Grove, N. J.; Apr. 30; Frank Daily's Meadowbrook. Write A. Clemente, 28 East 39th St., New York, N. Y.

**18th Engineers, Ry, San Francisco Area**—Reunion, San Francisco, Calif.; Apr. 30; Marines Memorial Club (Sutter at Mason). Contact W. T. Richards, 666 Post St., San Francisco, Calif.

**354th Ambulance Co (WW1)**—6th annual reunion, Lincoln, Neb.; Apr. 30-May 1; Lincoln Hotel. Info from John E. Downing, Greenwood, Neb.

**308th Inf, Co I (AEF)**—Annual reunion dinner, New York, N. Y.; May 7; Rosoff's Restaurant. Write Jerome Steinhart, 2425 Kings Highway, Brooklyn 29, N. Y.

**6th U. S. Cav Vets Ass'n**—Reunion, Chattanooga, Tenn.; May 27-29; Read House. Additional info from Vets Ass'n, 6th U. S. Cav, P. O. Box 987, Chattanooga, Tenn.

**325th Field Artillery WW1**—Annual Reunion, Springfield, Ill.; June 11-12; Abraham Lincoln Hotel. For info write Daniel Phillippe, Rt. 7, Frankfort, Ind.

**142nd General Hospital**—5th annual reunion, Kansas City, Mo.; June 17-19; Muhlebach Hotel. Info from Mrs. Elaine Mehalko Nolan, Box 14, McAlester, Okla.

**134th Inf, Co M**—4th annual reunion Goehner, Neb.; June 19; Grange Hall. Contact Kenneth Markle, Urica, Neb.

**332nd Ambulance Co (WW1)**—31st annual reunion, Sandusky, Ohio; June 25-26; Hotel Rieger. Write Harry B. Brown, 16715 Kenyon Rd., Shaker Heights, Cleveland 20, Ohio.

**500th Armored Field Artillery Bn, Hq Battery**—2nd annual reunion, New York, N. Y.; July 2-3; Hotel Astor. For info contact Charles Zuckerman, 437 West End Ave., New York 24, N. Y.

**123rd Field Artillery Bn, Battery A**—5th annual reunion and picnic, Galesburg, Ill.; July 10; Lake Storey. Details from Lloyd Cochran, Knoxville, Ill.

**14th Armored Div, CC B, Hq Co**—Annual reunion, McConnellsburg, Pa.; July 16-17; Johnnie Stenger's Motel. For info write Paul Cleary, 233 W. Hinds Ave., Sherrill, N. Y.

**168th Inf, Co F**—Reunion, Villisca, Iowa; July 16-17; American Legion Country Club. Info from Fred Bryson, 119 W. High St., Villisca, Iowa

**109th Inf**—Reunion, Scranton, Pa.; July 21-23; Hotel Jermyn. Contact Harry L. Inch 6120 Bustleton Ave., Philadelphia 49, Pa.

**127th Inf, Co H (WW1); 128th Inf, Co K (WW2)**—5th annual reunion and dinner, Milwaukee, Wis.; July 23-24; Eagles Building. Details from Carl E. Klingbeil, 3336 No. Cambridge Ave., Milwaukee 11, Wis.

**897th Signal Co Depot Avn (WW2)**—2nd reunion, St. Louis, Mo.; July 27-28; Hotel Statler. Write R. H. McGhee, 35 Hardith Court, St. Louis 19, Mo.

**60th Railway Engineers (AEF) & Auxiliary**—Reunion, Seattle, Wash.; July 28-31; Hotel Ben-

jamin Franklin, Details from D. E. Gallagher, 812 E. 21st St., Little Rock, Ark.

**395th Inf Ass'n**—9th annual reunion, Chicago, Ill.; July 29-31; Sheraton Hotel. For info contact Ralph Teresi, 134 N. LaSalle St., Chicago 2, Ill.

**379th AAA Bn**—6th annual reunion, Toledo, Ohio; Aug. 5-7; Hotel Secor. Info from Nick Carcus, 3433 Beaumont Dr., Toledo 8, Ohio.

**838th Ordnance Depot Co (WW2)**—2nd annual reunion, Williamsport Pa.; Aug. 6-7; Highland Lake Manor. Details from Bernard Kersting, P. O. Box 12, St. Clairsville, Ohio.

**349th Inf, Co H (WW1)**—6th reunion, Ottumwa, Iowa; Aug. 14; Memorial Park. Contact William I. McConnell, P. O. Box 142, Seymour, Iowa.

**4th Cav Ass'n**—Reunion, Minneapolis, Minn.; Aug. 19-20; Dyckman Hotel. Info from M. J. Loberg, Annandale, Minn.

**48th Surgical & 128th Evacuation Hospitals**—8th reunion, Chicago, Ill.; Aug. 20; Morrison Hotel. Contact Frank J. Krist, 5530 W. Dakin St., Chicago 41, Ill.

**61st Railway Engineers (WW1)**—Annual reunion, Milwaukee, Wis.; Sept. 3-5; Wisconsin Hotel. For info write E. M. Soboda, 932 Roscoe St., Green Bay, Wis.

**611th OBAM Bn Ass'n (2nd Bn. 304th Ord. Reg. B) & Auxiliary**—10th reunion, Buffalo, N. Y.; Sept. 9-10; Hotel Lafayette. Info from Laurence W. Jenkins, 370 St. Lawrence Ave., Buffalo 16, N. Y.

### Navy

**USS Nevada**—Reunion, Reno, Nev.; Mar. 11-12; Riverside Hotel. For info contact Val Dage, P. O. Box 2109, Reno, Nev.

**USS South Dakota Vets Ass'n (WW1)**—34th annual reunion, Portland, Ore.; Apr. 2; Multnomah Hotel. Contact Carl Haggland, 2519 N. E. 59th Ave., Portland 13, Ore.

**USS Chicago (WW1)**—35th annual reunion, Philadelphia, Pa.; Apr. 16; McCallisters. For info contact Paul A. Kline, 17 W. Park Ave., Oaklyn, N. J.

**VMB 613**—Reunion, New York, N. Y.; Apr. 23-24; Taft Hotel. Info from Joseph Waldowski, 3178 Almond St., Philadelphia 34, Pa.

**USS Warren**—3rd reunion, Baltimore, Md.; Apr. 30; Lord Baltimore Hotel. For details contact William J. Peters, 28-4 Harris Place, Paterson 4, N. J.

**USS Oklahoma (Commissioning & WW1 Crew)**—5th annual reunion, New York, N. Y.; Apr. 30-May 1; Hotel New Yorker. Info from Edward H. Lutz, 673 Lindley Road, Glenside, Pa.

**Bunker Hill NAS Alumni**—Reunion, Peru, Ind.; May 7; American Legion Home. Details from Robert W. Ward, 11 No. Water St., Peru, Ind.

**U. S. Naval Reunion Ass'n**—6th annual reunion, Richmond, Ind.; May 7; Leland Hotel. Contact Dr. R. O. Levell, P. O. Box 163, New Castle, Ind.

**USS Massachusetts (WW2 & until decommissioned)**—Reunion, Brookline, Mass.; May 14; Hotel Beaconsfield. Contact Paul S. Vaites, Jr., 97 Larchmont Rd., Melrose, Mass.

**16th Seabee Ass'n**—3rd annual reunion, Oakland, Calif.; May 14-15; Hotel Leamington. Details from Arnold Siita, 1246 Addison St., Berkeley 2, Calif.

**9th Naval District Shore Patrol Ass'n**—8th annual reunion, Akron, Ohio; May 20-22; Mayflower Hotel. Write J. F. Lenington, 72 So. 4th St., Aurora, Ill.

**USS Washington**—2nd reunion, Columbus, Ohio; July 1-4; Fort Hayes Hotel. For info contact John A. Brown, 121 E. 11th Ave., Columbus 1, Ohio.

**USS Quincy (CA 71)**—4th annual reunion, New York, N. Y.; Aug. 12-14; Hotel Governor Clinton. Write Ed Moore, 173 Carlton Terrace, Teaneck, N. J.

**88th CB**—Reunion, Chicago, Ill.; Sept. 16-18; LaSalle Hotel. Info from Mrs. F. C. Novak, 947 S. Brainerd, La Grange, Ill.

### Air

**20th Aero Sqdn, 1st Day Bomb Group (1917-19)**—2nd reunion, Dayton, Ohio; May 19-21; Van Cleve Hotel. For info contact Henry L. McCabe, 3244 Southern Ave., S. E., Anacostia Station, Washington 20, D. C.

**1913th Aviation Engineer Bn, Co B**—1st annual reunion, Atlantic City, N. J.; June 4-5; Madison Hotel. For details write Kenneth Poff, 502 Locust St., Wrightsville, Pa.

**463rd Aero Sqdn (& wives) (WW1)**—Reunion, Salina, Kans.; June 11-12; Lamer Hotel. Info from W. B. Scarrow, Box 6, Goodland, Kans.

**381st Air Service Sqdn (WW2)**—1st reunion, Elkhart Lake, Wis.; June 24-26; Schwartz Hotel. For info contact Joseph L. Bognar, 12304 Chesterfield Ave., Cleveland 8, Ohio.

**489th Aero Sqdn (original 77th) (WW1)**—15th annual reunion, Ebersburg, Pa. Aug. 27-28; Wissinger's Inn W. of Donald W. Evans, 300 E. Highland Ave., Ebersburg, Pa.

### THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

DECEMBER 31, 1954

#### ASSETS

Cash on hand and on deposit.....	\$1,138,499.10
Receivables .....	144,553.45
Inventories .....	372,533.09
Invested Funds .....	1,059,972.57
Permanent Trusts:	
Overseas Graves Decoration	
Trust Fund .....	\$ 258,311.76
Employees' Retirement	
Trust Fund .....	1,758,107.89
Real Estate .....	973,972.65
Furniture and Fixtures, less Depreciation .....	239,030.37
Deferred Charges .....	62,055.75
	<u>\$6,007,036.63</u>

#### LIABILITIES, DEFERRED REVENUE AND NET WORTH

Current Liabilities .....	\$ 333,045.35
Funds restricted as to use .....	29,048.76
Deferred Income .....	2,218,705.31
Permanent Trusts:	
Overseas Graves Decoration	
Trust Fund .....	\$ 258,311.76
Employees' Retirement	
Trust Fund .....	1,758,107.89
Net Worth:	
Restricted Capital:	
Reserve Fund .....	\$ 23,852.30
Restricted Fund .....	18,507.77
Reserve for construction	
Wash. Bldg. ....	35,065.18
Real Estate .....	973,972.65
Reserve for Rehabilitation .....	422,240.47
Reserve for Child Welfare .....	36,656.79
	<u>\$1,510,295.16</u>
Unrestricted Capital:	
Excess of Expense over Income .....	100,477.60
	<u>\$6,007,036.63</u>

## LET'S END THE BLACKOUT OF U. S. HISTORY

(Continued from page 25)

course in U. S. history. We are considering making it a requirement."

At Washington and Lee, "fully 90 percent of our students take the course in U. S. history," but nevertheless it is not required and one wonders why it is not made 100 percent.

A student at Barnard "must take a course either in U. S. history or modern European history." Why not both?

The University of North Carolina has almost what can, under present circumstances, be considered a model course, for the Dean of the College writes: "We have a two-semester course in European and American history, with some economics and government included, required of all freshmen."

Colgate has somewhat the same excellent idea, for the Dean of the Faculty says: "We have a required senior course called *The American Idea in the Modern World*, which deals with a good deal of American history."

A different note is sounded in the remark made by President Carter Davidson of Union College: "We try to avoid compulsory courses as much as possible, feeling that there are better motivations."

And this brings us to consideration of a crucial point. In plain truth, many

of us might like to go along with President Davidson in his thought, but in trying to do so we run smack up against a sad little piece of documentary data on this subject of compulsion.

In its September 1950, issue, *The*

# JOIN + RED CROSS

*Reader's Digest* published an article on American colleges and universities that did not require an examination in U. S. history either to enter or to graduate, and the bitter truth is that most of the universities and colleges, public and private, on that list four years ago are on this list today. In four years they have done nothing to improve the situation.

Since any reform has been almost negligible on a voluntary basis, some sort of prodding—if not, in the case of state institutions, downright compulsion—seems by now quite in order and perhaps even overdue. In the case of colleges supported in whole or in part by state funds this would seem to offer no problem, because the state legislatures can legislate any reform into effect.

In the case of private universities, pressure of public opinion and organized alumni insistence must be relied on.

A start in this direction has already been made. The American Legion at its 1954 national convention made this survey the basis of a resolution (No. 530) to require all state colleges and universities to teach U. S. history to all students.

A similar resolution, after enthusiastic endorsing oratory, was adopted at the 1954 annual national convention of the Military Order of the World Wars held in Pasadena.

Certainly here is a good, constructive, affirmative objective for all veterans and other patriotic organizations to sponsor and push through to 100 percent fulfillment.

THE END

**Now-a great new REMINGTON  
SLIDE ACTION 22!**

**ALL-NEW REMINGTON MODEL 572 "FIELDMASTER"**  
completes 1st Matched Set of slide action guns!

Here is a 22 rifle that matches the finest hunting arms. Note its striking similarity to other famous Remington guns at left. Their family resemblance in feel, operation and appearance gives "one-gun" familiarity to all your shooting.

An exclusive new design makes Model 572 the easiest of all slide

action 22's to use as a single-shot. And for hunting and plinking, its lightning-fast short-stroke slide action gives up to 20 shots. Engineered to outperform any other slide action 22! See the exclusive new features below . . . then handle the rifle and you'll *feel* the rest. At dealers now.

**Remington**  
DU PONT

EXCLUSIVE cartridge-feeding design gives straight-line feed . . . makes new "Fieldmaster" the most jam-free slide action 22 ever developed!

EXCLUSIVE action—3-point shooter protection. It's fast and smooth, has deep-set chamber, overlapping receiver flange, long solid bolt.

EXCLUSIVE, easy single loading—just drop single cartridge in ejection port and close action. The ideal slide action 22 for shooter instruction!

SIGHTS include step-adjustable sparring rear sight and white metal bead front sight. Receiver grooved for instant "Tip-Off" type scope mounting.

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New Model 572 22 rifle  
Model 760 big game rifle  
Model 870 shotgun

"Fieldmaster" is Reg. U.S. Pat. Off. by Remington Arms Company, Inc., Bridgeport 2, Conn.

\*Price subject to change without notice.

## HOW I LOST MY DIGNITY

(Continued from page 23)

arm, one shoulder, one side of your front and back, are modestly exposed and cleansed. Ditto with the other side. Then your right leg and foot, followed by the left leg. After which the nurse brings in a basin of fresh water, hands you the soap, a washcloth and a towel. "Now," she says, "you do the rest." And the door closes behind her.

You finally figure out what she means and you sit up in bed and do the best you can. You're afraid that someone will walk in unannounced, but no one does. You complete your task, cover your body with the sheet and await the return of the nurse. She smiles approvingly, removes the bath accessories and returns with fresh bed linen and a clean gown.

During the afternoon you sleep. At nine that night when you're supposed to start your night's rest, you're all slept out. They bring you a mild sedative, but it doesn't do much good. You lie there in the darkness wondering what mad initial impulse induced you to subject yourself to such indignities.

Observation. That's all you've come for. You do not yet suspect that you've offered yourself up as a guinea pig, that you are a number on a door, a man bereft of personality, a human entity who either has, or has not, certain symptoms.

You are now subjected to several days of assorted discomforts. You are punched and prodded and probed. Improbable things are inserted into your anatomy without so much as a by-your-leave. You shudder every time you are directed to turn over.

You live with shame. In all your life

you've never been so constantly exposed to so much. You exist in a nightmare of murmured conferences, of professional reassurance, of impersonal specialists and technicians. They tell you that you're getting along fine, but you've long since commenced to doubt that. So many places to be explored in such embarrassing ways. You never knew you had that kind of body. You think of the two-headed boy as being more normal than yourself.

Then one afternoon the doctor tells you cheerfully that he's ordered a special test. For the next morning. Nothing to worry about, he says, which is the signal for you to start worrying. They merely wish to determine whether your innards are acid or alkaline. By this time, you don't much care. You wonder why they don't perform the test as you did in high school chemistry—with litmus paper.

They trundle you into a small room you've never seen before. A strange nurse brings you what looks like a garden hose. She says casually, "Swallow this, please."

You are aghast. You know you've heard wrong. You ask her what she has said and she repeats with happy insistence. You are definitely rebellious. You vainly consider mutiny. This is carrying scientific research too far.

You get it down some way. And there you sit for two or three hours feeling like an auto tire with a too-large inner tube.

An eternity later you are escorted back to your room. Later in the day the doctor informs you that you are neither too acid nor too alkaline. You

are horrified with the idea that your ordeal was unnecessary. The doc says you're wrong: They had to know. Well, you decide, if there's anything they don't know about you now it's because medical science has invented no way of finding out.

Late afternoons and early evenings you are permitted to have visitors. At first, the idea appeals to you. Maybe your guests will look up to you in admiration when they are told about the courage and fortitude with which you have faced the impossibly ignominious tests that are included under the general head of observation.

You discover, to your consternation, that your visitors are unimpressed. They've either been through the same thing or they fail completely to understand. Either reaction leaves you angry and frustrated.

You're a patient for five days. You get the works. Your spirit rebels. Of course you could get up, put on your clothes and walk out, but you lack the courage. You envy the people who have entered the hospital for simple things like operations. They know what they're going to be up against. They have prepared for it. The ordeal is over quickly, and the period of recovery isn't too prolonged. When they return home, they have something definite to boast about.

But you? What can you tell your friends? That you were under observation. Even to yourself that doesn't sound impressive. You know you'll never be able to describe the agonies of apprehension you've undergone, the outrageous invasion of your personal privacy, the feeling that to most of the experts who have worked you over you're not even a person. To one, you are a stomach; to another, a heart; to another, an array of red and white corpuscles.

And then comes the day when the last test has been completed. By that time you are abject. Your doctor breezes in, chats merrily with the nurse, and informs you that you may go home the next morning.

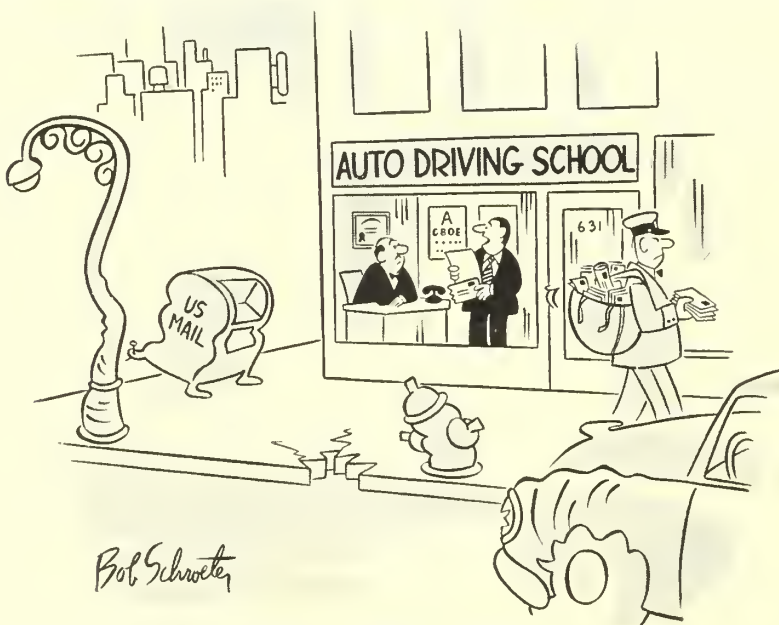
He tells you that you're all right, OK. A trifle run-down, perhaps, but definitely not ill. Nor likely to be.

You feel that you have been betrayed. After what you've been through you feel entitled to have *something* wrong, something to justify the experience you've been through. But they don't give you even that comfort.

Well, it's all finished. They haven't had to operate. You carry home again everything you took to the hospital.

Everything except . . . your dignity.

THE END



"It's from the city . . . they want us to leave town."

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

# Sound Off!

(Continued from page 5)

Catholics as individuals—it's the Pope; the Church I'm gunnin' for." Hypocrisy, where is thy counterpart in hell! I shall not dignify by comment, that clap-trap about "the deals the Pope made" or, "the structure or hierarchy of their institution is the same as the dictatorships of Stalin, Hitler, etc.," except to say that you assuredly deserve an Oscar from the boys in the Kremlin, Klinkert, for spewing such venom.

**Daniel D. Coons**  
Lt. Colonel, USA Retired  
San Francisco

▼ The letter from Kenneth F. Klinkert brought protests from hundreds of Legionnaires, the foregoing of which is typical. Certainly, The American Legion opposes the Klinkert viewpoint. For an official statement concerning this matter please turn to *Editor's Corner*, page 6.

The Editors

## RECORD-BREAKING RECORDS

Sir: Thomas Vernall's statement about a membership record is very interesting but in the period from September 1 to November 13, Howard Clark of this Post turned in 128 members for 1955. This makes him the first member of our Post to obtain a hundred or more members. Needless to say we are very proud of him. My hat is off to Comrade Vernall and all Legionnaires who have taken the interest in our organization to do such an outstanding job on membership.

**Charles Hurlbut**  
Adjutant  
Arcata Post No. 274  
Arcata, Calif.

Sir: In the January issue we noted with amusement a record claimed by Thomas Vernall of Post No. 105, Redwood City, Calif., who secured 119 members for 1955 and thought it was a record. A member of our Post, J. Earl Simpson, has averaged signing up 250 members a year for 26 years, and at present has signed up 175 for 1955 even though he has spent most of his time out of the State serving as Chef de Chemin de Fer of the 40 et 8.

**Winston F. Wiggs**  
Service Officer  
Carson-Wilson Post No. 1  
Tulsa 5, Okla.

Sir: Marion Clark of Post 303, South Bend, has signed up 176 renewals and new members for 1955 and is still hustling.

**Les Ravenscroft**  
South Bend, Ind.

How to avoid "grizzly-bear hair"



## NEW GREASELESS WAY TO KEEP YOUR HAIR NEAT ALL DAY

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## WANTED MAN WITH CAR

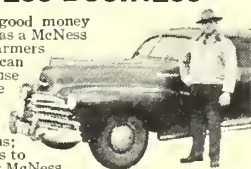
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parachute shrouds, it requires just one hand to open and close. When thumb blade slides smoothly out (or in). Designed for Russian winter front and Africa. 9 3/4" overall. Brand new. Send check or M.O. Calif. resid. add 3% state tax. Sorry, no C.O.D.'s.

—CRAFT BLDG. . 5880 HOLLYWOOD BLVD. . HOLLYWOOD 28, CALIF

## SHALL WE PAY OUR COPS OR ROBBERS?

(Continued from page 17)

pointing out that their present salaries are inadequate to meet living costs.

"A vote is taken. It is a tie, with the mayor not voting. More oratory, more thinking. The mayor visualizes the problem in terms of what is best for the city: Streets need paving, a fire truck needs replacing, a new school must be built, teachers and firemen will request a salary increase too if the police are granted one . . . more taxes, more protests, more unpopularity for those in office.

"The mayor is conscientious, an astute business man as well as a cautious politician. Higher taxes may cause the new industry that has been looking for a factory site in this city to look elsewhere. The new factory would give employment to local people, would add to the city's growth.

"The vote is taken again; this time the mayor casts his vote against the police salary increase, breaking the tie. He explains his action to the police delegation — 'cannot impose new taxes this year, cannot increase the bonded debt, funds just aren't available, perhaps next year . . .'

"Word travels swiftly to every police officer in the city. Some are on the third shift, 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. It is a cold, wet night. Officer Kennedy is on this shift, foot-patrolling the downtown beat, checking rear doors of stores and shops through dark alleys. He thinks: 'How do they expect a man to live? What can I tell Mary? How will we ever get ahead, much less out of debt? Doctor bills, dentist bills, winter clothing for the children. Why did I join the force in the first place?'

"His thoughts are interrupted by a slight movement of shadow behind the trash cans a few feet ahead, impercep-

tible except to a man trained to walk alert with every sense keenly functioning. A quick move, and he grabs a man by the collar. The dim light inside the rear door of a store shows a broken window pane. Another breaking-and-entering record on the police blotter. Perpetrator apprehended by Officer Kennedy. Total value of stolen merchandise recovered, \$900.

"Officer Kennedy, despite his financial worries, has just saved one of the merchants who protested the police salary increase a loss that amounted to more than the tax increase would cost him for the next five years."

This story, in greater or less degree, is enacted all over the country in too many towns and cities.

The simple truth is that in too many instances we are operating our police forces on horse-and-buggy principles. This is the day when truck drivers get a weekly salary of \$100 and more, plus bonuses, when factory workers make \$2 an hour and time-and-a-half for overtime, when carpenters take in \$25 a day, plumbers' helpers \$16 a day, grocery clerks start off at \$50 a week, and high school students working part time stick up their 16-year-old noses at anything under a dollar an hour. This is also the day when policemen working for cities with a population from 10,000 to 25,000 receive a median yearly salary of \$3,212—\$61.77 a week. Or \$3,725 annually if their job is in cities over 50,000; a paycheck of \$71.63 weekly for risking life and limb on an average of 48 hours a week, no compensation for overtime. Policemen, you know, must be on call for duty 24 hours a day. They work in blinding rain, sleet, snow; holidays mean little to them and such a thing as a bonus is unheard of. Fur-

ther, they frequently have tours of duty which make normal family life all but impossible. As one patrolman told me: "It's pretty rugged, leaving your wife and kids just as it's getting dark, and pounding a beat till almost daybreak."

Francis P. McGranaghan, chief of the police force of Manchester, New Hampshire, a city noted for its low crime rate and high police morale, puts the whole thing bluntly:

"In Manchester we have not been able to maintain our manpower for years," he says. "We do not have enough men to perform our duties and it is only through the excellent cooperation of our police officers that we are doing as well as we are. The paramount problem with our department is simply more pay for our officers. From 1946 through 1949 we had 18 officers resign to accept private employment. This was bad enough, but it is getting worse. From 1950 up to the present time, we have had 36 officers resign for the same reason. That is an over-all total of 54 officers, which is quite a figure when you stop to think that we have less than 100 officers who actually perform patrol duties. We just cannot compete with private industry."

It seems that our policemen, first to be called in times of emergency and danger, are the last to be considered in the social scale of things. Although the cost of living has risen 87.7 percent since 1939, the average patrolman's salary has fallen behind, in comparison, 28.4 percent, more than one-fourth of his living cost, whereas the utility employee (milkman, sanitation worker, bus and truck driver, trainman, etc.), is not only keeping abreast of the pace, but has jumped far ahead in all classifications.

From their slim salaries the police in many cases must also pay for their own uniforms, which sometimes run as high as \$450 the first year, then about \$100 a year thereafter. They have association dues of \$10 to \$24 per year; some of them are expected to join the various civic and service clubs. Some plainclothesmen pay for the gasoline and upkeep of the cars they drive while on duty.

Such small financial allotments are made for the purchase of ammunition for pistol and rifle practice, a necessary procedure for police proficiency, that many of our police find it necessary to handload old shells so they can afford to spend the required number of hours on the firing ranges.

John Gleason, Administrator of the Town of Greenwich, Connecticut, who has somehow managed to see to it that his force is better paid than the average,

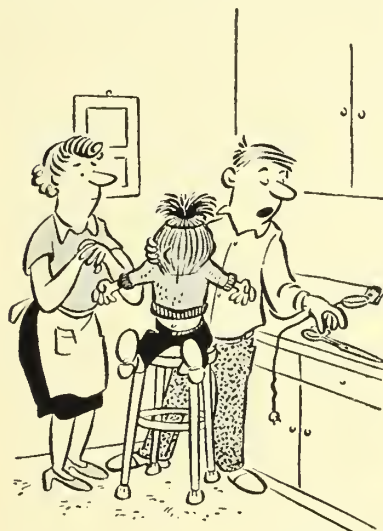


"Tough luck, Smelty. Your hardship discharge was disapproved after all!"

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

feels that the problem of police shortage and underpayment is a case of sheer neglect and misunderstanding on the part of the public. Says Gleason: "Our clergy and teachers have strong vocal defenders, but too often the police, instead of having a group speak up for them, have nothing but derogators."

Formerly Chief of Police of Greenwich and one time President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Gleason is a medium-sized man with graying hair, alert eyes, a man who chooses his words slowly and uses them with conviction. He feels that highly



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publicized pressure groups out to get every last dollar for municipal services have pushed the police down to the bottom of the scale.

"Another thing—the very nature of police work makes it grist for newspaper, TV and Hollywood mills," he adds. "One crooked cop receives more attention than ten police heroes."

"Most Americans don't realize that the policeman is really a true servant of the people. He loses his identity, must live by a precise book of rules. And he is expected to be a policeman 24 hours a day. Just because he takes off his uniform doesn't mean that he is also shedding his responsibility as an officer of the law. His neighbors know he is a policeman—any breaking of a social rule, no matter how slight, and he gets slapped down. And too often are police used as a vehicle by politicians."

Gleason believes that at least part of the answer to the police problem today might be found if policemen had some sort of organization such as the PTA (Parent-Teachers Association) to champion their cause.

He also feels that the public has been led around by the nose long enough.

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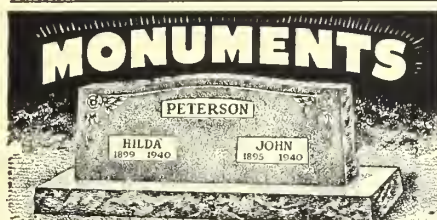


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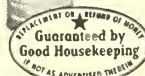
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Hollywood grinds out many “hate the cop” B-grade movies. Television also gangs up on the police with many cheap thrill-programs and the public, instead of being told to trust and believe in the policeman, the peacetime warrior who is constantly fighting to protect the American citizen, has had the belief instilled that the cop is always on the prowl to “make trouble for innocent people while the bad men get off scot-free.” For too many years the private eye has had credit for the work of the police — in magazine and book fiction, in movies and TV. The truth is, of course, that nearly all so-called private eyes are inept men who scrounge a meager living spying on disgruntled mates for divorce evidence.

The policeman is a highly trained individual whose sole purpose in life is to protect you. From a selfish viewpoint, a police department is the best single investment any city can have. It is more fundamental than any other commodity purchased with your tax dollar. Without law enforcement, your home, your children, your automobile, your personal possessions, down to the watch strapped to your wrist, are not secure. Those green city parks, paved streets, soundproof auditoriums, and scenic drives are not yours to enjoy if it is unsafe and even a threat to your life and property to use them.

Francis W. H. Adams, Police Commissioner of New York City, has demonstrated that he knows how to handle the crime situation in his city with an experiment he recently launched. He feels that he is pointing up the nation's problem with its inception.

Called Operation 25, the Adams brainchild consisted of placing the entire graduating class of 250 rookie policemen in East Harlem, easily the toughest, most crime-ridden area, block

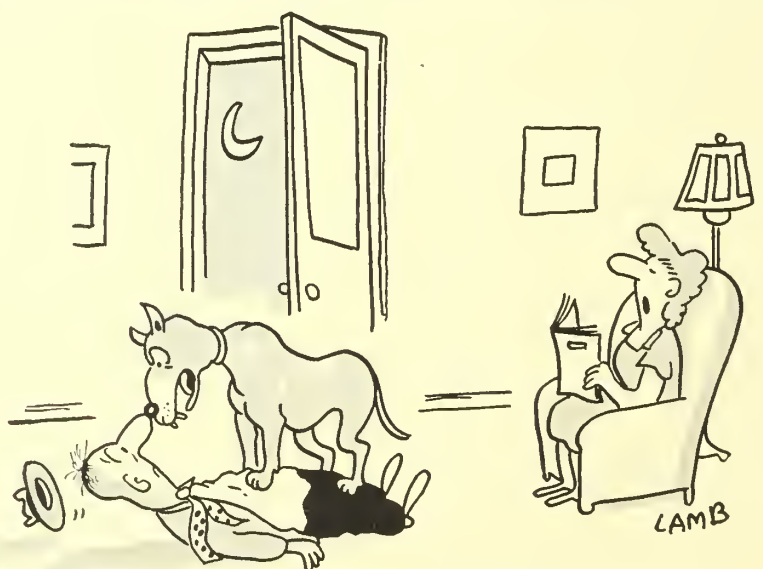
for block, in the United States. His theory is that his city, like most of the country, is under-policed, and that by tripling the police in one sector he could substantially reduce crime. It worked. There was a 50 percent reduction in crime of all kinds; burglaries dropped from 16 a week in one section to three.

Commissioner Adams proved his point. But he has yet to get the necessary civic support to hire the 7,000 extra policemen he needs.

The worst aspect of all in the police problem seems to be that the youth of the nation is taking to heart that old song from a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta, “A Policeman's Lot Is Not a Happy One.”

Young men graduate from high school at 17 or 18, and if they aren't slated for college, they secure employment in industry, as salesmen, or as apprentices in some craft. Nearly all police departments have a minimum entrance age of 21. So, immediately, a large employee segment is wiped off their prospective slate. The constant personal risk to life and limb no longer seems to lure young men to the ranks of the bluecoats. With the direct result that the intelligent, the capable, the adaptable, by the time they have reached an age acceptable to our police forces, have found their place in the sun, and there is little inducement to give up well-paid jobs to become law enforcement officers.

In addition, it is no hands-down snap to get into our police departments. Nearly all the forces have IQ tests, a stiff physical examination, a severe character and psychiatric check, with a probationary period of from six months to two years before appointment is final. Police do not carry a union card and there is no guarantee of a 40-hour week



“If you'd stay home more often, he'd recognize you!”

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

or time-and-a-half for overtime. All of this has led many young men into other fields.

Is there a solution to our perplexing police problem? In order to attract qualified personnel, some police departments are turning to the use of the apprentice, or cadet system of securing police recruits. The cadet plan, offering young men graduating from high school immediate employment and training as police officer apprentices, with admission to the regular force following if they qualify, is working successfully



"Wouldn't ya' know I'd get a lousy report card the same week my father is giving up smoking!"

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

in Milwaukee, Pasadena, and Washington, D. C.

This plans seems to provide for the necessary continuing interest and gives an excellent opportunity for observation of general fitness for the police service and the elimination of those who do not measure up. It also does away with the difficulty of trying to attract the older age groups after their employment in other occupations. The cadet system hasn't been in operation long enough to test its ultimate value, but it seems to be working out well.

A voice coming from one of the large cities of the South may have a partial solution to the problem of underpaying our police. A police chief down there recently suggested that the police of the country get together and emulate what New York State is suggesting for its teachers.

"Realistic salaries for our police," he said, "with a minimum ranging from \$4,000 a year for recruits to \$9,000 for those with at least ten years of service, could be the answer. Recently the house of delegates of the New York State Teachers' Association, representing 56,000 teachers, asked for this and also called for Federal legislation to provide \$250,000,000 in emergency aid

to States for public school construction and \$96,000,000 to be poured into State aid for schools and teachers."

The Southern chief added: "When it comes down to realistic fact, there is a greater basic need for effective police forces countrywide than there is for teachers. Without law and order there wouldn't even be such things as schools."

His point was graphically proved quite a few years ago: When Calvin Coolidge was Governor of Massachusetts, law took a holiday in Boston. The entire police force of the city got fed up with their salaries and the rebuffs they received when they asked for a raise. Ditch diggers, garbage collectors, sanitation workers were getting as much as the police. So they put it to the city: "Either you give us a raise or we walk out." They didn't get the raise, so they took off their uniforms and left the city of Boston without law for some days.

When law took a holiday, crime really went to work: Murder, vandalism, robbery and rape rose to such heights that it was necessary to call in the militia. Schools were closed, decent people stayed off the streets, merchants closed their shops; civilization went behind closed doors; fear took over. Boston, the city without law, became such a national problem that Governor Coolidge stepped in in a manner that led to his becoming President. The statement he made is still quoted by police the world over:

"The duties which a police officer owes to the State are of a most exacting nature. No one is compelled to choose the profession of a police officer, but having chosen it, everyone is obliged to perform its duties and live up to the high standard of its requirements. To join in that high enterprise means the surrender of much individual freedom. The police officer has chosen a profession that he must hold to at all peril. He is the outpost of civilization. He cannot depart from it until he is relieved.

"It is a great and honorable duty, to be greatly and honorably fulfilled, but there is toward the officer a corresponding duty of the State. It owes him a generous compensation for the perils he endures for the protection of society. It owes him the knowledge of security from want that is to be his in his declining years. It owes him that measure which is due to the great importance of the duties he discharges. Wherever the law goes there civilization goes and stays. When the law fails, barbarism flourishes. Whoever scouts the law, whoever brings it into disrespect, whoever connives at its evasion is an enemy of civilization. Change it as you will, but observe it always, that is Government. . . ."

THE END

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(Continued from page 26)

Herman P. Hoehler, 910 2nd St., N. W., Grand Rapids, Mich., thinks this is a good opportunity to make a gaff for the fishing months ahead. "A handy gaff-hook can be made for inland lake fishing," he says, "by using a broken hoe handle, or any round hardwood handle. Saw the handle off to the length wanted, then screw in the bottom end a large clothesline hook. Sharpen the point of the hook to needle sharpness (filing will accomplish this) then sandpaper the whole thing smooth and deck it out with a couple of coats of varnish and you've got a gaff that will cost practically nothing except a little of your time."

This is a good time to get out with your rifle and try to knock off a fox or two. March is a month when foraging is tough and reynard is on the prowl. Early morning or dusk is a good target time.



Use a scoped varmint rifle which fires a low trajectory, center-fire cartridge for best results. Foxes have a habit of sitting quietly on a small summit or knoll, watching for small animal life to move by. If you do the same, using a pair of binoculars, it's likely you'll enjoy good shooting.

Boy Scout Troop 44 of Catskill, N. Y., does some deeds beneficial to wildlife.

The picture below shows the troop with some of the 60 wood duck nesting boxes the boys made and set up in the neighborhood of Catskill, Cairo, and Palenville. Last spring, the troop planted 1,300 food shrubs for wild game at East Jewett. Next spring, they will dam some nearby streams that dry up in summer, killing off trout. We're indebted to Anthony Zinnanti, Chairman of American Legion Boy Scout Troops of Greene County, N. Y., for this info.



If you have the idea that we're getting a little anxious about the fishing season, you're right. We are. And Lt. Col. H. H. Hearfield, 2000 Magowan Drive, Santa Rosa, Calif., informs us that most fishermen don't know how to use a landing net. In case you are one of those, here's how:



"Some try to approach the head end of the fish and thereby invariably hit the line and often disengage the hook or at least excite the fish and lose him," the colonel says. "Others try the tail end, touching him and sending him off on another run. Not good. The net should be placed *under the fish* and brought up evenly, one side of the net circle frame touching the fish forward on the body, the other side touching the rear of the fish. If this method is used fish will always bend into the net to resist contact with the frame..."

Let's settle that old argument about whether a deer sheds his antlers and whether they are of solid bone. Deer antlers are solid bone, unlike the porous and hollow horns of other animals. They are shed once a year by a clean break near the skull. This is often accomplished by rubbing the antlers against the trunks of trees and like objects. A new set is grown every year. The horns of animals like cows have only a bony core encased in a horny sheath and are never shed.

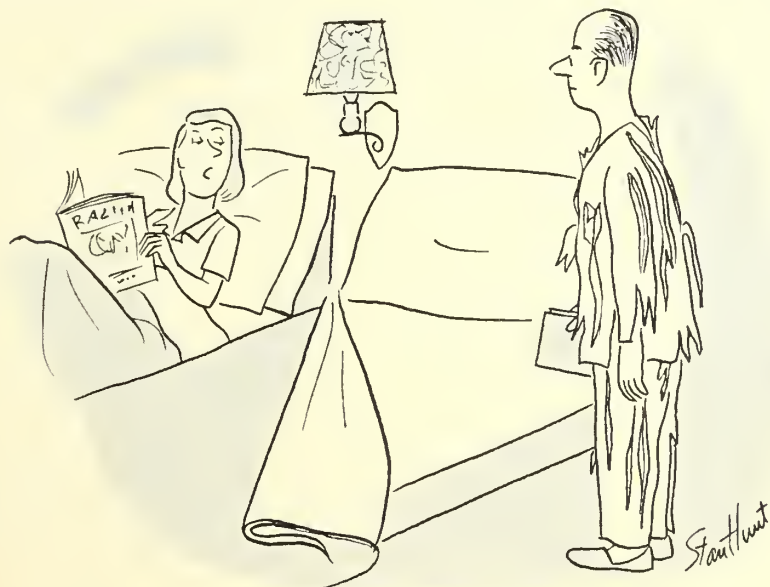
We've had several letters asking about the similarity of names of places and dogs. Several breeds are named for the areas of their origination: Dalmatians after Dalmatia on the Adriatic coast; Salukis for the old city in Arabia, Saluq; Afghan hounds for Afghanistan; Pomeranians after Pomerania, a Prussian province; Weimaraners for the province of Weimar in Germany where they were created; Airedales for the dale of the Aire in England; Pekinese for Peking; St. Bernards after that great Alpine hospice, etc. Many other breeds are named after people or things.

If you have a helpful idea that pertains to hunting or fishing, send it along. If we can use it, we'll reward you with a hunting or fishing accessory. Address: **OUTDOOR EDITOR, Rod and Gun Club, The American Legion Magazine, 720 Fifth Avenue, New York 19, New York.**

## (Continued from page 11)

"614." He slipped the bill into the bellboy's hand. "After she opens the

He stopped in the doorway, fixing one crutch firmly on the floor against the door so that it could not be shut. He looked the young woman over,



AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

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coolly and slowly, from head to foot. "Glad to see me, aren't you, huh?" he said evenly.

"Go out, Jimmy," she said, suddenly agitated. "Go on, Jimmy. Please. Wait till I get dressed. Please, Jimmy."

He looked her leisurely over again, studying her agitation. "After fourteen months I come back and my wife wants to get dressed before she can see me."

"No, Jimmy. Please, Jimmy. I want to look nice for you." Her voice was rising. She caught herself and lowered her voice. "Please, Jimmy. You didn't write you were coming."

He gave her a look of quiet contempt and moved on into the room. He closed the door behind him with a swing of a crutch. He stood just inside the door and took some of the weight off his single leg and his arms by leaning his back against the door.

He detached past her into the room. It was a combination bedroom and sitting room. The decor was modernistic with ash wood furniture and much chrome. An ash wood partition, shoulder high, separated the bedroom section from the parlor. There was a narrow opening in the middle of the partition.

"Where is he?" he asked. He spoke evenly, nodding at the partition. "In there?"

"Who?" She tried to be bold, but faltered. "I don't know who you're talking about, Jimmy."

He detached his arm from the crutch on the side of his good leg and put his hand into his blouse.

"Dave, the postman back home, gave me your forwarding address." Again he spoke evenly. "Guess you didn't want to miss any of my letters. Or was it the government checks? You sure were considerate."

He pulled out a small, short-barreled,

black, mean-looking automatic pistol.

She screamed, looked quickly toward the opening in the partition. She became aware of his eyes searching her actions. She turned her back to the bedroom.

"You—you're not going to kill me, are you?" she asked.

He held the pistol in his right hand flatly close to his side. His voice was very steady. "Could be," he said. "Could be you, too. I've killed a lot of rats in the last year or so. A couple more aren't going to make any difference."

Now, slowly, using only one crutch, the one on the side of his bad leg, he hobbled into the room. He kept the automatic flatly against his side as before, his wrist tight against his body, his finger on the trigger. She, pale, shaking, backed away before him.

"Bruno, Barney Bruno, the traveling jeweler," he mumbled as he moved. "Well, he's going to do some far traveling right now." He stopped, looked her directly in the eyes. "What're you shaking about?" He nodded his head toward the partition. "It couldn't be because I'm going to kill him, could it?"

She rushed to the partition, stood in the opening, a hand gripped to the frame on each side. "No, Jimmy! No!" She was close to hysteria now. "There's nobody in there!"

He continued on toward the partition.

"No, Jimmy. Please, Jimmy," she pleaded, still in the opening in the partition, her hands still gripping the frame. He hobbled close to her. He raised the pistol and pushed the barrel into the hollow of her slender neck. He pushed it so hard she began to choke.

"One," he counted slowly. "Two—" She leaped away from the opening. The corners of his mouth turned

slightly upwards. "Don't love him that much, do you?"

He moved in through the opening and stopped just inside the partition, the pistol held higher now, his wrist still tight against his body.

There were twin beds. Both had been slept in. The window was open. No one was in sight.

The Marine moved slowly into the room. He was sharply on the alert now. He looked carefully right, left, right, left, moving his body and the automatic with the moving of his head. He hobbled over to the bathroom, looked in. There was no one there. He moved over against the wall on the opposite side from the window so that he could see under the beds without too much stooping. There was no one on the floor under the beds. The closet door was wide open. There was nobody there either.

The blonde young woman stood in the opening in the ash wood partition. She watched him, her eyes tensely on him, never leaving him.

He hobbled back toward the partition.

"I told you there was nobody there," she said.

She moved back into the sitting room. "You didn't act that way, though."

He reached the opening in the partition. Standing sideways, he gave the bedroom section a last look. A wide chair close against the open window caught his gaze. It was very close to the open window, blocking any view of the window sill. He hobbled back into the room and looked behind the chair. He stiffened at what he saw.

Two hands were stretched across the window sill. The thumbs were free but the eight fingers gripped the inside of the sill. A small section of the wrists showed. The fingers were fat, white with tension, strained by the weight of the body suspended outside.

He gave the hands on the window sill only a brief look. He pulled the chair away from the window so that the window sill would be no longer hidden and moved quickly back into the sitting room.

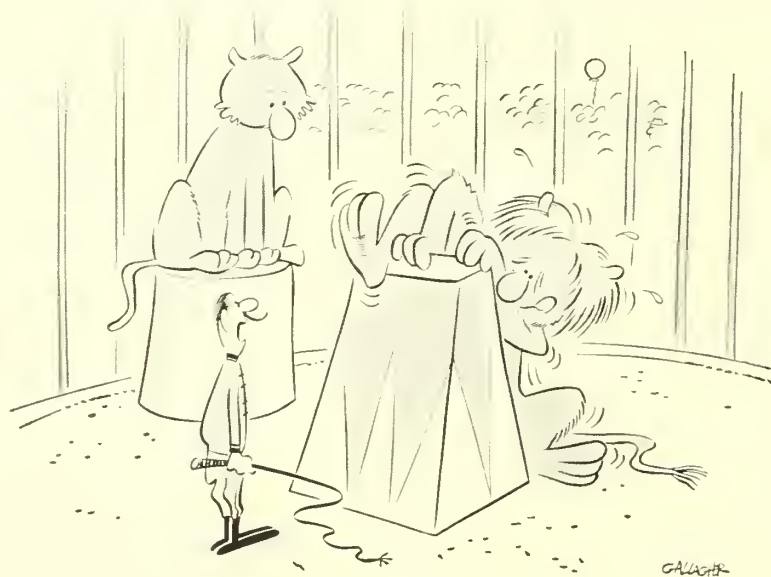
She stood in the middle of the room, waiting tensely, watching.

His actions were relaxed now, almost casual. His tension was gone.

"I think I'll sit, if it's all right with you," he said. "I didn't sleep much coming over from Boston last night."

He sat down in a chair so placed that he could see the window sill through the opening in the partition. She still stood. She studied him carefully, obviously worried at his new attitude.

"Sit down," he said. He nodded toward a chair across the room from which no view through the opening



"Leap! You're supposed to leap up there!"

in the partition was possible. "Over there."

She moved to sit on the sofa from which the bedroom section could be seen.

"No, not there," he said. He pointed the automatic at the chair across the room. "That chair over there."

She sat down in the chair he indicated. She continued to study him and, as she did, she grew more ill at ease.

"I told you the truth, didn't I?" she said.

He glanced at the fingers on the window sill, seen through the opening in the partition. "In a way. Yeh."

He took a cigarette out of a pack in his pocket without taking out the pack.

She became more ill at ease. "I think I'll dress if you don't mind."

She started to get to her feet.

"Sit down. Sit still." She hesitated. "Do as I tell you." His voice, steady though it was, had a deadly gravity.

She sat back down in the chair. He lighted the cigarette.

"My Uncle Jim, he told me about you and your traveling jeweler." He took a deep inhalation of the cigarette. "Told me his name and all about him. He wrote to me a couple of months ago. Gave you plenty of jewelry, did he?"

"You were gone so long, Jimmy." Her voice trembled.

"You telling me? Out where I was, every day, every hour, was a million times longer than any hour or any day in Medford, Massachusetts. I was gone long, all right." He glanced in at the fingers on the window sill. The fingers moved, seeking to relax the tension. "Lives here in New York, does he?"

The fear that had almost gone from her eyes when he came out from the bedroom was now in her eyes again. "You're talking funny, Jimmy."

"Yeh," he went on as if he had not heard her. "Uncle Jim wrote me all about him. He's a shorty, isn't he? Kind of on the plump side. Nervous too. Bad coordination. Panics easily." He smoked a moment. "Uncle Jim didn't write me that, though. About him being nervous and going into panics." He took another deep inhalation of the cigarette and exhaled. "I figured that out all by myself."

The fear in her eyes grew. "Why are you talking so funny, Jimmy?"

"Yeh. Jewelry's tough competition. I saw that bracelet back in there on the dresser. Must have a hundred diamonds in it." He smoked meditatively as he spoke. "You know something? I had it figured out how with my back pay from prison camp I could buy you a wrist watch with a couple of diamonds in it when I got back. I used to sit up in that stinkin' stockade near the Yalu and picture the watch on your pretty little

wrist and I used to be able to see the watch shine and the diamonds sparkle! What do you think of that?"

He glanced in at the fingers on the window sill. The fingers, losing their grip on the inside of the sill, were beginning to slip.

He turned back to the young woman. "Yeh," he said, "just a couple of diamonds, that's all, but how I could see them sparkle!"

Now a hoarse, desperate voice could be heard calling, "Help! Alice! Help!" The voice came out of a great emptiness.

She jumped to her feet.

"Sit down!" He barked the words fiercely at her. She hesitated. "Didn't you hear me?" he barked again, raising the pistol so it pointed directly up at her.

She sat limply down. Her body was loose with terror.

The voice could be heard calling again. "Alice! Help! Alice!" It kept on calling, growing weaker as the emptiness engulfed it, and growing more desperate as it grew weaker.

He glanced in at the window sill. The white fingers had lost their grip on the inside of the sill and were slipping toward the outside edge. The wrists could no longer be seen.

He looked back at the weak, sunken figure in the chair. "Alice," he said, relaxed again, "Alice. How I used to love that name. Remember our song, 'Alice Blue Gown'? I guess I've sung that song a million times since I went away. In the dark, I used to sing it. In combat. In the blizzards. In the rain. On the hills. In the paddy fields. Everywhere. All the time. 'Alice Blue Gown.'"

He glanced again in at the window sill. The slipping fingers had reached the outside edge.

There was one last weak, terror-choked cry. "Alice! Alice!"

The fingers disappeared.

The Marine got to his feet. "Yup, 'Alice Blue Gown,'" he said quietly. "I must have sung that song a million times."

He put the automatic back in the pocket inside of his blouse.

The young woman, seeing the pistol put out of sight, leaped to her feet and ran wildly into the bedroom. She raced to the window and looked out and down toward the street. She screamed insanely and jumped back into the room, pressing her two hands against her eyes and face to shut off the horror which she had seen.

The Marine gave a single glance in at her hysterical figure. Then he opened the door and hobbled out into the corridor. He softly shut the door behind him. It was very quiet in the corridor as he moved along the deep carpet toward the elevator.

THE END

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## WE NEED A GEOGRAPHY LESSON

(Continued from page 13)

after the manner of the Army, Navy, Air Force or Marines. Only too often its dedicated efforts to awaken the public to the grim necessity of community defense have been greeted by yawns rather than handclaps.

And yet, America must have adequate civil defense, reaching into every populous community, or it will surely perish in a war of H-bombs and guided missiles. In a supreme crisis, the glamorous Federal Civil Defense Administration may be the difference between victory and disaster. In a war of air attack, it is the ultimate line of defense.

This is not to say that America should adopt a Maginot Line mentality, and look for foolproof CDA defenses. Grandiose plans, running into astronomical billion figures, and promising impossible security, which have been bruited about in the civil defense discussion, have done the CDA cause more harm than good. Civil defense can perform no miracles, but it can importantly increase America's margin of safety, in the crisis of attack.

Through civil defense, every sizable American community is drawn directly into the national defense task. It is the junction point at which the local community joins the over-all effort. It is a preview of the terrifying impact of atomic war upon the daily life of every American. Under the old geography, CDA would be little more than an exercise in morale. Under the geography of the age of speed, it is a desperate last-hour rallying program against an enemy which can launch against us flying death in the afternoon.

CDA is an alert to the American people that the next war will come to us, not overseas, but in the next community or the next street.

The new geography gives equal ur-

gency to the fight on the community level against the communist infiltration danger. When war was something fought thousands of miles away from the United States, in Europe or Asia, the ability of the Fifth Column in America to do serious harm was sharply limited. But with war and devastation on our own soil, in an atomic conflict, communists can be a deadly local problem. Their weapons are defeatist propaganda, defense plant strikes by red-led unions, sabotage, espionage on behalf of the enemy, and even open insurrectionary violence. Such covert efforts can paralyze the will of a community. And when the false-face communists are strong enough to infiltrate the unsuspecting defense agencies themselves, there can be a fatal confusion of decision from the top.

The point needs no laboring that the communists in America have become a different kind of problem from what they were in the past. Specifically, they have decentralized and shifted their bases of operation.

The experience of a small Eastern industrial city graphically illustrates this.

The city had always prided itself on its comparative freedom from local communist trouble-makers. Recently, it experienced a mystifying change in its public opinion atmosphere.

For no apparent reason, local women's clubs, forums, schools, even churches began to book a disproportionate number of "left-of-center" lecturers and writers. The community had visits from well-publicized, self-styled "liberals" who talked convincingly about "peace" and co-existence with Russia and who deplored "witch-hunting," "red-baiters" and investigators. It became increasingly evident that the city was being softened up for some purpose.



AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

AL KAUFMAN

A few alert citizens, disturbed by what was going on, consulted a man nationally famous for his information on communist tactics. He put his finger on the explanation immediately.

"You have become a new communist concentration point," he told them. "Your local industries have been receiving large electronic orders from Washington. The communists are getting ready to get a foothold among your workers."

Surely enough, his words were confirmed when, a short time later, a team of organizers for a communist-controlled union appeared in the city and began signing up wage-earners.

The incident is important because it pinpoints the fact that there are no longer any onlooker cities in America in the fight against communism. Subversion is no longer a problem only in New York, or Chicago, or Los Angeles, or a few large concentration points. It is spreading over the country, following the lines of the new geography.

The United States has learned a great deal about communists in the last few years, most of it the hard way. What we have learned is the folly of underestimating them. The Hiss case, the White case, the Coplon case and others have taught us nothing if they have not taught the amazing harm that a little handful of communist "plants" can accomplish when spotted throughout the Government. They have taught that we cannot afford to relax for one moment in our vigilance against the enemy within.

The new geography has complicated our problem. It has brought the threat of infiltration into virtually every American community which has defense or strategic industry, or which adjoins military or air installations.

I have seen this exemplified in my own home community of Las Cruces, New Mexico. Until a few years ago, no American city seemed more remote from the main pathway of the communist threat than Las Cruces. Famous for its proximity to the burial place of the legendary Billy the Kid, the city had no important defense role.

Then something happened which pulled us overnight into world history. The Los Alamos Laboratories were located in New Mexico. Our State became the birthplace of the atom bomb. That brought changes.

Today, Las Cruces finds itself sitting in a box seat for the events which may precede World War III. Its streets are a passage-way for scientists from the White Sands Proving Grounds, for service personnel from nearby Holloman Air Force Base, or for travelers whose destination is Los Alamos. We are a community full of strangers. Unless we are watchful, the communists

can easily slip in to work among us, unsuspected.

And what has happened to Las Cruces is happening, in greater or lesser degree, to scores of American communities which are in population transition, as a result of the spread-out of defense industries, laboratories, atomic plants and air installations. We are in the midst of a giant process of industry relocation. As the population make-up of our cities changes, communism under its various names will find easy entrance to many communities once closed to it. The American communist problem has become decentralized.

This fanning out of our essential war industries is bringing an increasing number of our non-metropolitan American cities onto the target map of future possible enemy air attack. The CDA has listed 70 separate regions as "top target areas" in a future air war, areas with a total population of 67,750,992 Americans. In the new geography of war, there are no longer any sanctuaries.

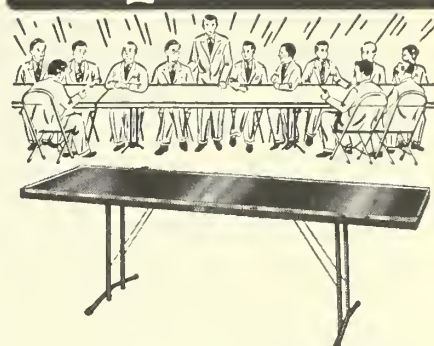
Under the conditions of atomic war, the familiar distinction between the war front and the home front vanishes. The home front, overnight, may find itself transformed into the front line. It stretches through all the 48 States. The field of vigilance is co-extensive with the nation. It includes the uranium mines of the Colorado plateau, the magnesium plants of Galveston Bay, the chemical industries of Baton Rouge, of the Tennessee Valley or of Niagara Falls, the tin smelters of Texas City, the airplane plants of Wichita and the titanium plants of Nevada, just as truly as it includes the great cities. Air attack or internal sabotage at a single one of these points may imperil the whole defense effort. Everywhere the problems are the same.

The geographical imperative is forging us together—uprooting separatism, debunking the idea that defense is someone else's business. Many of us may regret our lost onlooker role. But as realists, we dare not resist the facts. We must recognize them and keep our thinking contemporaneous. Americans can no longer afford outdated thought patterns.

America has the might, in material resources and national character, to repel any aggression which communism, or any other enemy force, may launch against us. But its might must be directed by minds which have weighed the imponderables of the future.

It has been aptly said that American security is a race between catastrophe and our ability to grapple with the new geographical facts. The American people need a geography lesson. They need a new, clear picture in their minds of the changed contours of the atom world in which they must live. THE END

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# OF AIR FORCE BOMBERS

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Air Power is recognized as a vital part of national defense today and every citizen should know where the nation stands in rebuilding it. He should know, as well, what must be done to maintain adequate strength once it has been reached.

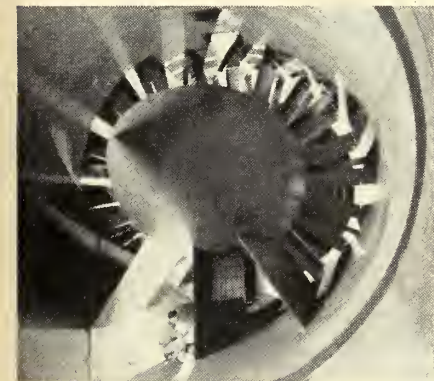
The aviation industry and the armed forces, working hand in hand, have developed vastly improved aircraft in every category. The Air Force jet bombers shown on the opposite page are typical. They are second to none in performance, in safety,

in quality. These bombers and other aircraft are being produced today at more than four times the rate of production of June 1950, when war broke out in Korea.

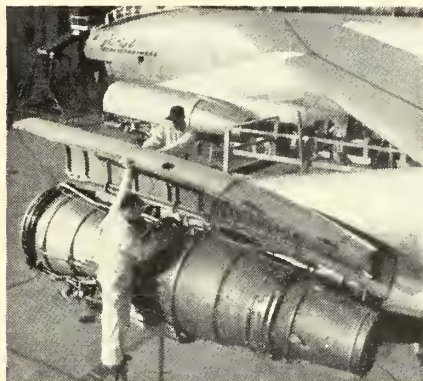
In spite of the progress represented by advanced aircraft and high production, years of work are still ahead, for the challenge to freedom is greater now than ever. To meet it, research and development leading to more powerful generations of fighting aircraft *must be continuous* year after year; production must be high

enough to supply the armed forces with the required quantities of the latest fighting planes.

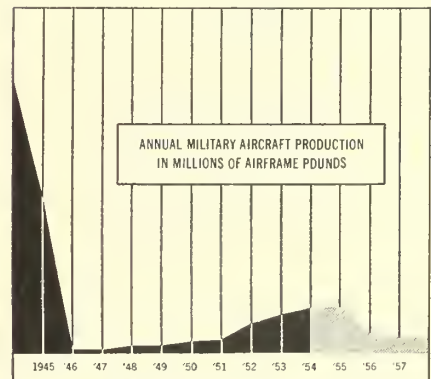
Today such a program of research, development and production has been given a vigorous start. If continued on a long-range basis, without wasteful stop-and-go interruptions, it can build and maintain essential, modern Air Power at the lowest possible cost to the taxpayer . . . With such air strength we one day may achieve lasting peace.



**CONTINUING RESEARCH** in basic fields of aviation is absolutely essential if America is to retain air leadership in future years. Tomorrow's faster, safer, higher-flying and more powerful airplanes will depend on the better materials and advanced knowledge continually sought by aviation scientists. Aerodynamic research facilities such as this United Aircraft Corporation wind tunnel have a vital part in this never-ending search.



**CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT** of engines, aircraft and equipment is the only way America can be assured of airplanes that are second to none in performance. Since 1942 jet engine development has steadily added to aircraft speed and altitude. But only within the last few years, with the perfection of such mighty engines as Pratt & Whitney Aircraft's J-57, has America been able to have supersonic fighters and heavy jet bombers.



**CONTINUING PRODUCTION** of the most modern aircraft and aerial weapons, which are far more potent than World War II's best, is rebuilding Air Power from 1947's weak level to a position of major strength, as this graph shows. Estimated future production, if uninterrupted and backed by adequate long-range research and development work, can provide up-to-date air strength over the years to come at minimum cost to taxpayers.

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# The Army goes "Right Dress"

Before long you'll see the troops stepping out in new uniforms.



Above, even the field uniform looks good. This is the combat infantryman of 1955.



Left to right (above), the Army steps out in its new uniform. Captain, new Army Green general duty uniform; WAC First Lieutenant, semi-dress uniform; First Lieutenant, officer's dress blues; WAC Sergeant, white dress uniform; Corporal, tropical worsted summer uniform; WAC Private First Class, semi-dress uniform; Corporal in new Army Green general duty uniform and WAC Sergeant in semi-dress uniform. ODs will be worn until 1960.

IN SEPTEMBER, 1956, the Army will begin to issue its new uniform. Officially it is Army Green, shade 44.

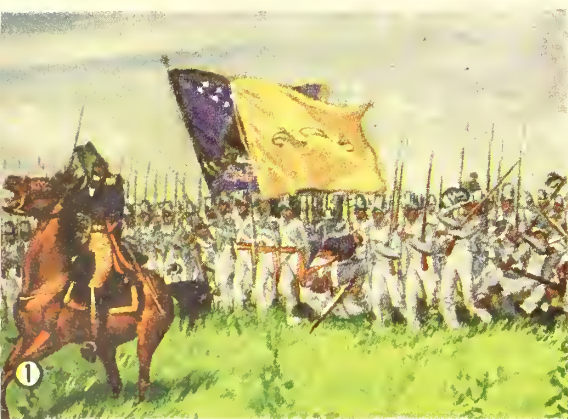
Although there have been changes in the style and cut of the uniform in recent years, this is the first change of uniform color in nearly half a century.

The new uniform is the result of

work done by the Army Uniform Board since 1949. In all, some 31 different colors were considered. In 1950 the grey-green was chosen for testing.

The 3rd Infantry Regiment at Fort Meyer, Va., was selected to wear the new uniform. Army surveys indicate the new color is popular with the troops.

## OVER THE YEARS THE UNIFORMS HAVE CHANGED AS WAR ITSELF CHANGES



① Charging the British lines at Chippewa, Canada, in 1814, the U. S. Infantry's grey uniforms with high hats and sashes still showed the influence of European dress.



② In the Civil War, uniforms were less ornate. The 13th U. S. Infantry, dressed in the then-familiar "Union Blue," charged the grey-clad Confederate lines at Vicksburg.



③ At San Juan Hill, Cuba, the Army looked distinctively American. The campaign hat, first used by the Army on the Western plains, gave troops a rakish look.



The OD uniform (above) in WW I was both dress and combat garb for the troops.

## THOSE CRAZY MIXED-UP DOGS

(Continued from page 19)

in purse money. In the 1954 event, all gate receipts, 30 percent of the auction money, and all entry fees were paid out in purses. In addition to the \$900 grand final heat, two additional finals were held. One, a \$500 event, was given for dogs that had won either second tree or second line in the semifinals. In this, Trigger, owned by D. Musick of Dayton, Ohio, won the \$150 first tree prize. Bill Newlin of Willshire, Ohio, won the \$100 second tree prize with Captain Jack; Tinker Toes won first line and \$150 for J. B. Griener of Sonora, Ohio, and William Veirs of Pontiac, Michigan, picked up second line and \$100 with Dixie Fly. The other additional final was a consolation affair of \$200. This consisted of one dog from each owner who had entered three or more dogs in the trial, none of which had qualified for the semifinals. The money was divided between Dayton Fletcher with Little Blaze, Eugene Hollar with Red Cloud, Carl Shears with Brownie and Earl Shafer with Bill.

Even with all this purse money and unusually high expenses due to a change of course this year, the 1954 Doughboy Derby was, as usual, a financial success, netting the Emmet Mannix Post around \$2,000. In fact, through the years it has contributed more than \$10,000 to the Post's building fund and the other ambitious activities it undertakes. The Emmet Mannix Post is a very active organization, famous for the excellent lunches it serves during these trials. And its refreshment counters are heavily patronized during these three days. It is from this source, along with some side-line attractions, that it makes its main profit, for the field trials always draw huge crowds of spectators, many of whom remain throughout the three days' running. Dog supply houses display their wares in tented "stores," other concessions are present, and the entire grounds take on the festive air of county fair time. Rowdiness is not tolerated.

The Doughboy Derby originated in 1950 when Cy Brockman, now chairman of the field trial committee, was Post Commander of Emmet Mannix Post No. 345. Brockman's ambition was to build a permanent home for the Post and he needed a money-making activity. He enlisted the aid of Ray McIntire, a Post member and an experienced coon-dog field trial enthusiast, in launching the Doughboy Derby. McIntire still serves as field marshal. The membership was rather reluctant to attempt this new and, to many, strange undertaking but luckily the persuasiveness of Brockman and McIntire won the argument. The first event was a grand success,

bringing some \$1,500 to the building fund, most of the profit coming from lunches, refreshments, etc. The Derby has been a "going" affair ever since and Brockman and the Post members now consider it their greatest source of income. Incidentally, but quite importantly, the \$33,000 home is nearly paid for and the Post members are contemplating the establishment of a municipal playground for the town of Fort Recovery in the near future.

Emmet Mannix Post also sponsors another important trial each March. This is called the Spring Coon-dog Classic and, from a profit-making standpoint, it is on a par with the Doughboy Derby. In fact, regular field trial patrons in the area plan to attend both these events annually.

"For a sure-fire money-making activity, I heartily recommend a coon-



dog field trial to any Legion Post that has a cooperative membership that will pitch in and help," says Legionnaire Brockman. "Our Doughboy Derby has made money from the start and now that we are well established in this sport, our Post can plan additional civic and patriotic activities with anticipated funds from this source. Like any other successful activity, there is a lot of hard work attached, but it's also a lot of fun and an all-season sport. The event has brought good will and good business to our community and made a lot of fine friends for our Post. With the interest in coon-dog field trials increasing as it is, it will not be difficult to get a sizable entry if you advertise the trial well enough and offer purses consistent with the entry fees."

Any Legion Post interested in holding a coon-dog field trial can secure full information on how to organize and operate such an event by writing Cy Brockman, care of Emmet Mannix Post No. 345, Fort Recovery, Ohio.

Again, incidentally, Messrs. Brockman and McIntire own and campaign a well-known coon-dog field trial contender. "He's just an advertisement," they say, but he enjoys pretty fair success. His name? *Doughboy*, of course!

THE END

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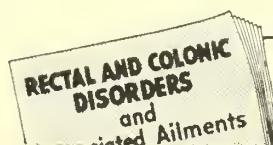
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## ARE SPECTATOR SPORTS ON THE WAY OUT?... "NO!"

(Continued from page 14)

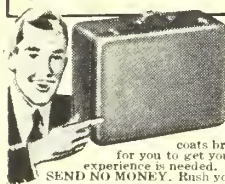


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**BRIMMS PLASTI-LINER**  
THE PERMANENT DENTURE RELINER

is to create more interest in sports than America ever has known, but in the most barren and unproductive way imaginable. The TV free-loaders are like the biblical liars of the field: They toil not, neither do they spin.

In order to appreciate the impact television has had on the sports picture—and the sports picture is now represented by a 21-inch screen—a researcher finds himself wandering around in the statistical stratosphere. The figures awe him.

The average big league baseball game during the course of the regular season (paying customers between 5,000 and 10,000 at best) is watched in 400,000 homes. These, mind you, are just run-of-the-mill ball games. Furthermore, they are shown only over local stations and not on nationwide hook-ups.

The last World Series, however, went into 11,500,000 homes for each of the three weekday games while the lone Saturday affair went into 15,500,000 homes. The poll-takers are in the habit of doubling or tripling the number of receiving sets in order to strike an average of total viewers. That might be correct for an "I Love Lucy" show or some similar non-sports program. But sports events are shown in saloons, clubs, and the like where the viewers in front of each set may number in the dozens. A conservative figure for that fourth World Series game would be 40,000,000 spectators who paid not a dime unless they wanted to be sharp and bought razor blades as the sponsor suggested.

In the vast Cleveland stadium there was a non-capacity crowd of 78,102 for that fourth game, a rather disappointing figure. The number of participants? It totaled exactly 29—11 Giants and 18 Indians.

The average TV college football "game-of-the-week" on a Saturday afternoon reached 8,500,000 homes or at least 19,000,000 viewers. The Saturday night professional football telecasts, presenting better and often more exciting games, drew even more.

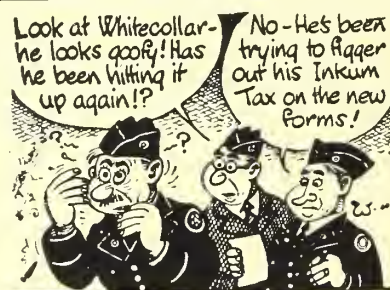
The set of statistics which leaves a researcher so openmouthed that his chin touches his shoetops is to be found in boxing. The ordinary, undistinguished, boxing bout on a national network is shown on 8,500,000 screens. A top-drawer championship fight will attract twice as many, meaning 16,000,000 screens and something like 45,000,000 viewers.

Yet the boxing situation never was worse. Small, neighborhood clubs are folding the country over. Just by way of example, you need not go beyond New York, once the busiest fisticuffing

center of them all. At one time there were sixteen local fight clubs in the metropolis, all thriving. Now there are two, St. Nick's and Eastern Parkway. What keeps them alive is their televised fights. And Madison Square Garden, once pugilism's holy of holies, is a deserted barn. Not many months ago a fight there drew less than a thousand spectators.

Television is swallowing up boxers faster than they can be trained or produced. Even the amateurs, once a prolific source of supply, are drying up. Amateur boxing once was a great revenue-maker for the Amateur Athletic Union. But few will pay money to see amateurs any more (except perhaps

### WALLY



(From March, 1941 A.L.M.)

Golden Gloves finals) when professionals can be watched for free on the TV screen.

Baseball's minor leagues also are folding fast, as the major leagues, blindly devouring their young, selfishly televise into minor league territory and kill the minor league gates. If it weren't for the Little League movement and The American Legion Junior Baseball program for teen-agers, baseball would be rushing toward extinction.

America has grown soft with its creature comforts and modern conveniences. When 40,000,000 people watch a baseball game on a Saturday afternoon, it means that they are not playing baseball, shooting golf, swimming, whacking a tennis ball or engaging in sports themselves. Admittedly the World Series is only once a year. But the situation is duplicated to a lesser degree around the calendar.

The viewers-with-alarm already are predicting—unfortunately it's an accurate prediction—that Russia will whack the whey out of once-invincible America in the 1956 Olympics. The Soviets have organized their sports on a mass participation basis. We haven't. And because this is not a dictator nation, we never will.

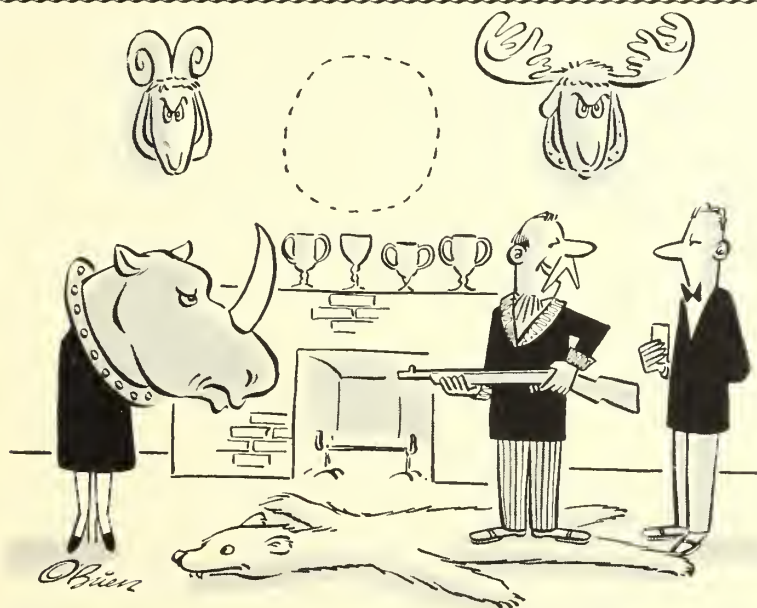
We've become a country of viewers and not doers, sad but true.

THE END

## (Continued from page 15)

Golf? Glad you brought that up! The Chicago District Golf Association reports that its most recent year survey showed 2,550,000 rounds fired annually in the Windy City's metropolitan area. By comparison: More of our fair citizens play golf (2,550,000) than buy tickets (1,979,812 in 1954) to watch our Cubs and White Sox major league baseball games. Project those figures on a national basis—including minor league baseball—and you will find increased evidence supporting the participant argument.

Baseball participation in our nation's high schools is growing like Topsy. Colorado, which five years ago had only 20 prep nines, now has 185, while Alabama's high school teams have soared from 36 to 296. There are plenty of DiMaggios, Musials, and Minosos coming along for tomorrow. They may not have places to play, though, if



"—then he whirled and came at me again—once more, Martha!"

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

Frank L. Ostlin-Dir., Fifth Ave., Bldg., Moline, Ill.

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minor leagues keep folding because fans are staying away from the turnstiles. Television, we agree, keeps some of these fans at home. But others are not going out to the old ball game because they are too busy being participants in some sport.

Bowling is the final exhibit we place before the sport jury. Bowling equipment manufacturers, who need such figures for production guides, claim that there now are 20,000,000 individuals splattering the tenpins. This vast group annually pays nearly \$324,000,000 to roll on 75,000 alleys at 10,000 bowling establishments, the majority—but not all—certified by the American Bowling Congress.

And these 20,000,000, according to

one major manufacturer's survey estimates, bowl an astronomical 810,000,000 games per year.

No one can convincingly argue that America's John and Mary Fan, their brothers and sisters and dozens of cousins, do not represent the greatest army of sports participants in the world.

They're a great army of spectators, too. No one cheers more lustily than John or Mary at American Legion Junior Baseball games. There's a reason for this, of course. Last year, they had approximately one million sons participating in Legion Baseball. To this add the nearly-600,000 more who played in the programs for younger children—such as the Babe Ruth League and the Little Leagues.

THE END

**WILL THEY CLEAN UP THE COMIC BOOKS?**  
(Continued from page 21)

for their toughness, their hatred for "cops," and their willingness to commit any crime regardless of the risk. In crime stories, sex was portrayed almost exclusively by women drawn with exaggerated hips and breasts. In a family

coast to coast, parent-teacher and other civic groups have condemned vicious comic books and otherwise dealt with them effectively on a local level.

The continuing pressure of informed individual citizens and organized community groups is an important factor in cleaning up the magazine and inexpensive-book racks of the country. This kind of pressure is needed to bring about the enforcement of the relevant municipal, Federal, and State laws and to prod the industries concerned to police themselves.



"Only an idiot would climb a sapling to reconnoitre."  
AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

magazine it is impossible to describe in detail the comic-book treatment of sex or give samples of the dialogue.

On several fronts, however, progress has been made in the battle against bad comic books. For one thing, indignation against them has reached national proportions. Dr. Frederick K. Wertham, long an articulate foe of the comic-book industry, last year published a book, *Seduction of the Innocent*, attacking comic books as contributing to the mental ill-health of children and to the rapidly rising rates of juvenile delinquency. In various communities from

The problem has been put under the spotlight by three or more committees of Congress and, in New York State, by a Joint Legislative Committee to Study the Publication of Comics, which was formed in 1949. The public hearings and reports of these bodies have brought out highly important facts about the workings of the comics magazine industry as well as its product.

The executive director of the Hendrickson Committee (a Senate Subcommittee to Investigate Juvenile Delinquency), for example, described several of the plots of comic books on the stands last year. Three of the stories will illustrate, for readers who are unfamiliar with the worst of them, the kind of comic books which have been highly objectionable:

In *The Haunt of Fear*, one story entitled "Head Room" has to do with a spinster who operates a cheap waterfront hotel. The renter of one room is a man she would like to marry. To win his favor she reduces his rent by letting his room, during daytime hours, to an ugly and vicious-appearing man. . . . Meanwhile there are daily reports that a murderer is loose in the city who cuts off and carries away his victims' heads. The hotel keeper suspects the vicious-appearing day-

time roomer and searches his room, where she discovers six heads hanging on hooks in the closet. She is discovered there by her favorite roomer, who is returning to the hotel for the night. It develops that he is the murderer and the next picture shows the hotel keeper's head being added to the closet collection.

In this same issue, there is the story of an orphan boy who is placed by an orphanage with nice-appearing foster parents. The foster parents give excellent care and pay particular attention to his physical health, insisting that he eat nourishing food in abundance. A month later the boy discovers the reason for their solicitude when they sneak into his room late at night and announce they are vampires about to drink his rich, red blood. It might be said that right triumphs in the end, however, since the boy turns into a werewolf and kills and eats his foster parents.

A story called "Orphan" in *Shock Suspense Stories* is that of a small, golden-haired girl named Lucy, of perhaps 8 or 10 years of age, and the story is told in her own words. Lucy hates both her parents. Her father is an alcoholic who beats her when drunk. Her mother, who never wanted Lucy, has a secret boy friend. The only bright spot in Lucy's life is her Aunt Kate, with whom she would like to live. Lucy's chance to alter the situation comes when the father, entering the front gate to the home, meets his wife running away with the other man. Snatching a gun from

the night table, Lucy shoots her father from the window. She then runs out into the yard and presses the gun into the hands of her mother, who has fainted and lies unconscious on the ground. Then through Lucy's perjured testimony at the following trial, both the mother and her boy friend are convicted of murdering the father and are electrocuted. The pictures show first "Mommie" and then "Stevie" as they die in the electric chair. Later pictures show Lucy's joyous contentment that it has all worked out as she had planned and she is now free to live with her Aunt Kate.

No wonder the New York State Joint Legislative Committee stated flatly that "crime comics are a contributing factor leading to juvenile delinquency."

The question of the harmful effects of comic books on children has been a hotly disputed topic for years among laymen and experts. Leaving aside the intricacies of the arguments, the legislative committees have performed an invaluable service by making public the fact that some experts have permitted themselves to be used by the comic-book industry.

The Hendrickson Committee, for example, showed how parents might easily be misled by articles, pamphlets, or other statements by some psychologists, sociologists, and child-study experts who questioned the harmfulness of comic books. Although many such experts were in the pay of comic-book publishers, this fact was not mentioned when their fine-sounding credentials were listed in the pamphlets condoning

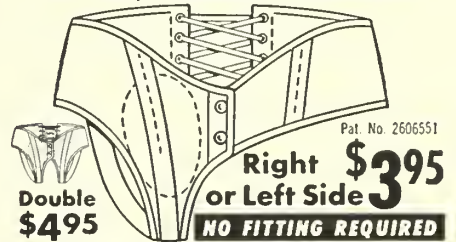


"George, that smelly old pipe has got to go."

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

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TALL MEN — 6' to 6' 11": Here's a tall story you can believe. Your shopping problems are solved by the country's only specialist in fitting tall men. Complete stock of EVERYTHING for the tall man in hard-to-get sizes at easy-to-pay prices. Send for BIG CATALOG NOW!

**TED THOMPSON, Dept. 169**  
6 Green St., Boston 14, Mass.

comic books. Questioning the executive director of the Child Study Association of America, Senator Kefauver said:

"I think it is traveling under false colors. I think you ought to at least give the fact that these people are paid or have been paid by comic-book publishers."

Another misleading practice of the publishers was brought out by the committee; that is, to quote favorable evaluations made several years ago by experts regarding the comic books of an earlier day when they were not so bad as recently.

Another contribution of the investigative committees has been to make more widely known the distributive practices of the comics industry. As with almost everything else connected with the business, the tie-in-sale is a controversial subject. Some magazine retailers claimed that they had to offer crime comic books for sale in order to stay in business. The producers and distributors denied this and branded it as an alibi for the retailers to give to protesting community leaders. Be that as it may, in at least two States (New York and Idaho) the tie-in sale of objectionable material has been outlawed. The New York law reads:

"No person, company, partnership, or corporation shall as a condition to a sale or delivery for resale of any paper, magazine, book, periodical or publication, require that the purchaser or consignee receive for resale any other book or publication, reasonably believed by the purchaser, or consignee, to be obscene, lewd, lascivious."

The mechanics of magazine distribu-

tion are such that most local retailers receive their magazines in bundles, usually by truck. The bundles include not only a supply of well-known national magazines, but also a supply of comic books. As William Richter, counsel for the News Dealers Association of Greater New York, testified before the Hendrickson Committee: "The newsdealer cannot sit down as any ordinary merchant and pick his merchandise. There is no list presented to him of magazines which he may choose and which he may reject. He takes what is given to him."

The wholesalers claim that the newsstand dealer may return for credit any comic books without displaying them.

According to Mr. Richter, however, the newsdealer cannot return unwanted comic books until they are outdated, which may be two or three months. In the meantime, his money is tied up in them. Furthermore, a newsdealer who does not cooperate with his distributor may find his next shipment lacking the usual number of fast-selling national magazines. Or his delivery may be delayed so that his competitor is given a time advantage. There have been cases in which a retailer has had his supply of magazines cut off completely because of what the distributor considered an unreasonable number of returns.

Some of the largest distributing companies have announced that they will not ask any retailer to display a comic to which any community group objects. Several objectionable titles have been withdrawn from distribution. True self-regulation by distributors can do much to overcome the salacious-magazine problem.

The Comics Magazine Association of

America, Inc., was formed last fall by a group of leading publishers, distributors, engravers, printers, and mat makers. Its laudatory purpose is self-regulation. Critics of comic books who hate censorship have long called for the industry to police itself. In response, the Association has adopted a Code for the Comics Magazine Industry and appointed former New York City Judge Charles F. Murphy to enforce it rigorously.

If this can be done industry-wide, the comic-book problem will be solved. If the distributors would apply this code to all the magazines and paperback books they handle, the newsstands would no longer be a means of corrupting children. The problem of second-hand-magazine stores will have to be left to the local communities. Eventually, it is to be hoped, the existing objectionable comics will wear out.

The section of the code dealing with advertising matter forthrightly prohibits the advertising of liquor, tobacco, sex books, sex instruction books, reproductions of nude or semi-nude figures, knives, realistic gun facsimiles, fireworks, gambling equipment or printed matter dealing with gambling, and medical, health, or toiletry products of a questionable nature. More than a month after the Code went into effect the Association announced that it had banned six advertisements.

The code bans horror and terror comics by titles and by other provisions:

All scenes of horror, excessive bloodshed, gory or gruesome crimes, depravity, lust, sadism, masochism shall not be permitted.

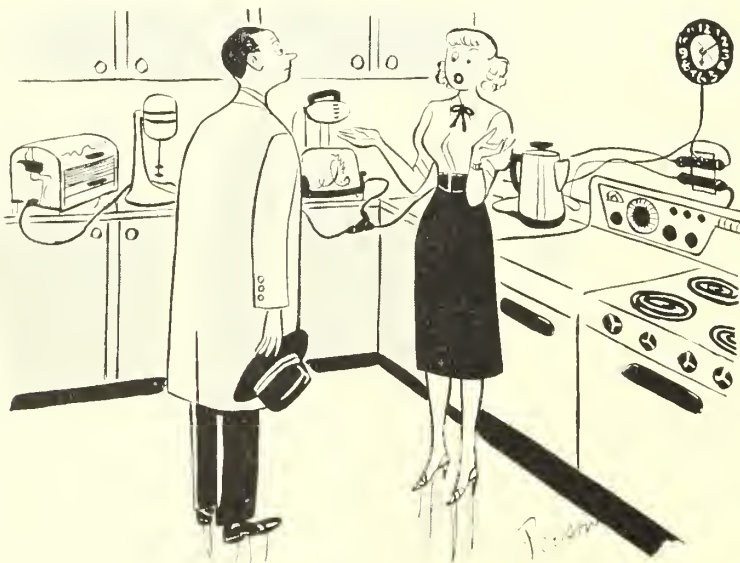
All lurid, unsavory, gruesome illustrations shall be eliminated.

Scenes dealing with, or instruments associated with walking dead, torture, vampires and vampirism, ghouls, cannibalism and werewolfism are prohibited.

Scenes of excessive violence shall be prohibited. Scenes of brutal torture, excessive and unnecessary knife and gun play, physical agony, gory and gruesome crime shall be eliminated.

Other provisions of the code pertaining to crime, violence, religion, costume, sex and marriage necessarily leave room for interpretation. The judge and his assistants will have to use a firm hand.

The task will not be easy. Even the officers of the new association have much to learn about "standards of good taste." The secretary-treasurer, Monroe Froehlich, Jr., is the business manager of one of the Atlas group of companies whose comic book *Journey Into Mystery* for January contains a story in which the killer is depicted as an F.B.I. agent. Although the writing of



"We'll have to go out to dinner. The fuse blew."

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

this comic probably antedated the official adoption of the code, it certainly violates the provision that:

"Policemen, judges, government officials, and respected institutions shall never be presented in such a way as to create disrespect for established authority."

The judge will have to rival Superman himself to educate the members of his own official family and to keep them in line.

Not all the publishers are members of the Association. The large and self-righteous Dell Publications and Classics

Senator Kefauver: You have got blood coming out of her mouth.

Mr. Gaines: A little.

The Chairman: Here is blood on the ax. I think most adults are shocked by that.

Competing comic books published by fly-by-night non-members of the Association may pose a knotty problem for Judge Murphy and the Association. Conceivably, the distributors could refuse to handle magazines lacking the Association's approval. Whether or not this would be a violation of the anti-trust laws is a question to be answered. Anyway, what is to stop non-members from distributing a filthy product themselves, by truck if need be?

There was a similar organization to the new Comics Magazine Association of America called the Association of Comics Magazine Publishers, Inc., established in 1947 or 1948 for the same purposes. It had a code—not as detailed—but adequate to cope with all comic books except the little horrors which proliferated somewhat later. Henry E. Schultz, the counsel of the old Association, testifying before the Hendrickson Committee in 1954, described the organization as a "study in frustration." When he tried to enforce the code, some publishers left the Association, and it finally dwindled to a "very insignificant, small fraction of the industry." Some years ago the members voted to do their own censoring and to use the Association's seal of approval on their magazines. This policy contributed to the predicament in which the industry now finds itself.

Despite the disappointments of the past, honest self-regulation is so desirable that we applaud this new effort of the comics industry. We can strengthen Judge Murphy's hand by impressing upon the industry that comics teaching contempt for law, the mores of society, fair play, and human life will never be acceptable.

The last National Convention of The American Legion postponed action on fresh resolutions condemning the comics industry's nasty aspects and voted to wait and see how its new efforts at self-control pan out in terms of products offered on the newsstands.

In the final analysis, self-regulation can be successful only so long as community groups keep a vigilant eye on the comics that appear on the newsstands.

Legionnaires, working through their local Posts, their PTA groups, their pastors and their local police departments can soon let the publishers of comic books know what publications they do not want sold in their communities.

In other words, it's up to you!

THE END



"Oh, hello, dear — been waiting up long?"

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

Illustrated have remained outside the fold.

William M. Gaines, publisher of Entertaining Comics, delayed joining the Association until early in January, although he announced earlier that he was dropping his horror line. The originator (if that is the right word) of that great gift to American culture—the horror-terror comic—Gaines' idea of good taste may be judged by his testimony before the Hendrickson Committee:

Senator Kefauver: Here is your May 22 issue. This seems to be a man with a bloody ax holding a woman's head up which has been severed from her body. Do you think that is in good taste?

Mr. Gaines: Yes, sir; I do, for the cover of a horror comic. A cover in bad taste, for example, might be defined as holding the head a little higher so that the neck could be seen dripping blood from it and moving the body over a little further so that the neck of the body could be seen to be bloody.

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### BUSINESS—MONEY-MAKING OPPORTUNITIES

MONEY? Get "An Earthworm Turned His Life", other money making information! Free! Write Earthmaster System, 28X, El Monte, California

EARN BIG MONEY—Invisibly reweave damaged garments at home! Details FREE. Fabricon, 8346 Prairie, Chicago 19

WHOLESALE! 8,000 Nationally Famous Products. 30-80% Discounts! Large Catalog. Sensational Business Plans Included. Consolidated Distributors, 21-80, Lafayette, Paterson 15, New Jersey

\$150 week—easy! Start home Venetian Blind Laundry. Revealing book free CY Co., 101 S. 44th, Philadelphia 4, Penn.

Make \$10,000.00 yearly. Public Adjusting. FREE details. STERLING Great Neck 57, N.Y.

WOMEN—EARN SPARE TIME Cash mailing advertising literature. GLENWAY, 5713 Euclid, Cleveland 3, Ohio.

### SALES HELP—AGENTS WANTED—MEN—WOMEN

SALESMEN—Show America's leading Nationally Advertised line—Novelties, Gifts, Utility Items. Big commissions advanced. Prospects everywhere. Steady Repeats, Low prices, free literature—samples. Write: Charms & Cans, 407 AL-35 South Dearborn, Chicago 5, Illinois.

Will you wear new suits and topcoats without one penny cost and agree to show them to friends? You can make up to \$30.00 in a day even in spare time, without canvassing. Pioneer Tailoring Co. Congress & Throop Sts., Dept Y-1005, Chicago 7, Illinois

PROFITS TO 150% selling finest Everyday Greeting Cards. New 21-Card \$1.00 Assortments, unusual Gifts, 100 fast-sellers. Valuable Gift Bonuses. Assortments on approval. Stationery samples FREE. \$1.00 Gift FREE for prompt action! CREATIVE CARDS, 4401 Cermak, Dept 501-A, Chicago 23

SHINE CARS WITHOUT "POLISH" New invention. Lightning seller. Cars gleam like mirror. Samples sent on trial. KRISTEE 424, Akron, Ohio

ANYONE CAN SELL famous Hoover Uniforms for beauty shops, waitresses, nurses, doctors, others. All popular miracle fabrics—nylon, dacron, olan. Exclusive styles, top quality. Big cash income now. real future. Equipment free. Hoover, Dept. M-195, New York 11, N.Y.

EARN EXTRA MONEY Selling Advertising Book Matches. Free sample kit furnished. Matchcorp, Dept ED-5, Chicago 32, Illinois

### HELP WANTED—MEN—WOMEN

Send postcard for FREE Money-Making Kit guaranteed direct-from-Mill nylons, lingerie, blouses, men's and children's wear. American Mills, Dept 456, Indianapolis

FOREIGN U.S. JOBS to \$18,000 Many overseas countries, Fair Paid Skilled-Unskilled Trades. Office Stamped self-addressed env. brings reply Job Opportunities, Waseca, 18M, Minn

Postcard Can Put You In A Fine Business! Complete line of Air Cushion shoes Big steady Commissions. No experience or investment needed. Send postcard for Free Outfit. Mason Shoe. Dept MC81 Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

### INSTRUCTION—EDUCATION

U.S. CIVIL SERVICE JOBS! Start high as \$350.00 month. Men-Women, 18-55. Quality NOW! 23,000 jobs open. Experience often unnecessary. Get FREE 36-page book showing jobs, salaries, requirements, sample tests. WRITE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE, Dept A-41 Rochester, N.Y.

Master Watchmaking At Home. FREE Sample lesson. G I Approved CHICAGO SCHOOL, Dept AL-3, 2330 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago 47

### STAMPS

STAMPS—77 Different U.S.—25c or 125 Different U.S. \$1.00 Aparals Premiums. UTECH, 1143B North Keeler, Chicago 51

STAMP COLLECTORS LOOK! 10 foreign sets 10c. All complete. Appraisals. FARMER, 4913 Rosewood, Los Angeles 4, Calif

FREE sample stamp newspaper information on collecting, special lists. Appraisals. Littleton Stamp Co., Littleton A23, N.H.

United Nations First Stamp Set. Among World's Prettiest. Only 10c. Appraisals. Welles, Box 1246-AL, NYC 8

### MISCELLANEOUS—PERSONAL

\$10.00 for certain Lincoln pennies. Indianapolis \$50.00 Booklet showing prices paid, 10c. Lincoln Cans, D-362, Glendale, Arizona

MAKE MONEY OLD GUNS Current Prices Free Catalog PIONEER COMPANY, Hartman, Tennessee

Wanted—Mercury Sterling, silver, platinum, precious metals. High payment. Any quantity. Write Mercury Refiners, Norwood, Mass

PSORIASIS VICTIMS Hopeless? New Discovery! Free trial offer. Write PIXACOL Box 3583-LC, Cleveland, Ohio

### CLAIM INVESTIGATORS

INVESTIGATE ACCIDENTS! Many earn to \$10,000 yearly. Thousands of insurance companies, airlines, and steamship lines need Claim Investigators. We train you at home spare time. Placement counsel and help. FREE Book—Now! Universal Schools, Dept 73, Box 8202, Dallas 5, Texas

**LEGIONNAIRE  
RETAILERS!**

See ad on Page 60

### Dig That Crazy Turf!

*I'll take the first fair offer  
For these clubs that I still owe for;  
I thought I was a golfer,  
But I guess I'm just a gopher.*

— PHILENE HAMMER

### Point of Sanitation

It had rained heavily all day and the Army camp was completely flooded. Going his rounds just before "lights out," the sergeant came upon two recruits washing in the flood waters. He immediately gave the men a bawling out and his outburst brought an officer to the scene.

"What's the trouble, Sergeant?" asked the officer.

"These men," declared the sarge in disgust, "are washing themselves in the water they're going to sleep in!"

— F. G. KERNAN



"Visit us—descend on us—what's the difference? Anyway your mother's coming over!"

### Biblio Files

"Classics" are books  
Stored in library nooks  
— Immortal and ageless screeds  
Of mighty poems and noble prose  
Which everyone thinks that everyone knows  
And nobody ever reads.

— BERTON BRALEY

### The Stark Truth

*One thing that most men won't stand  
for is a woman in a street car.*

— MORRIS BENDER

### Hard to Bag

A famed matador was fighting in the bull ring of a small town in Mexico near the American border where many of the spectators in the stands were seeing their first bull fight. Among those was an old Texan cowboy. The fight had reached the stage where the matador, armed with only a cape, was taunting the bull to charge him, avoiding the animal's sharp horns by mere fractions of an inch, and flipping the cape aside as the bull charged past. At last the



## PARTING SHOTS

old cowboy could stand it no longer. He rose to his feet and shouted:

"Bud, he ain't never gonna run into that sack unless you hold it still!"

— DAN BENNETT

### Observation

*The girdles in ads, when I heed 'em  
Seem mostly on girls who don't need 'em.*

— JOHN VAN BRAKLE

### Got the Make and Color Too!

The young man and his wife, driving proudly downtown in their spanking new automobile, agreed to meet at the parking lot at 2:30 p.m.

It was almost time for the man to return to the car and meet his wife, when he remembered he'd forgotten to take his keys from the ignition switch.

Running to the parking lot at full tilt, he arrived just in time to see a thief driv-

ing off in his new car. His wife, approaching from another direction, noticed the mishap also, and came running over.

"Of all the dumb tricks," moaned the husband. "Did you see his face, by any chance?"

"Oh hush, dear," soothed the efficient young thing. "You've got nothing to worry about. As he went by, I managed to take down his license number!"

— THOMAS P. RAMIREZ

### Aftermath

*The courtship is over  
And the wedding has hatched  
A chain of events  
With a ball attached.*

— THOMAS CORNELL

### Rapid Service

Upon graduating from high school, the boy had been signed to play shortstop for a club in a small pro league. In his first game in organized ball, though, he made seven errors. He was fired forthwith and took a train for home.

"What brought you back so fast?" asked his father when he came in the door.

"Seven league boots."

— LUKE NIELY

### They Smell So Swell!

The folks who eat peanuts  
In movies drive me nuts,  
And popcorn as well makes me fretsome.  
Both bother me so  
That I can't watch the show  
Until I myself go and get some!

— S. OMAR BARKER

### Such Eloquence!

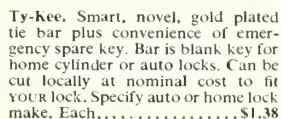
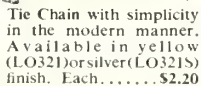
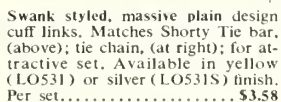
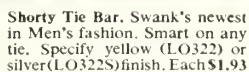
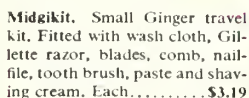
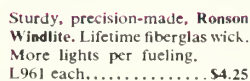
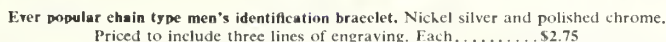
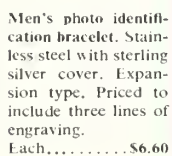
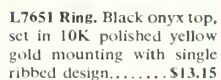
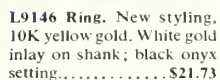
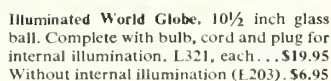
An Indian was sending smoke signals in New Mexico when an atomic blast let loose. "Gosh," said the awe-stricken brave regarding the mushroom cloud, "wish I'd said that!"

— HAROLD HELFER



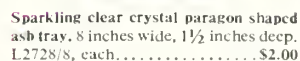
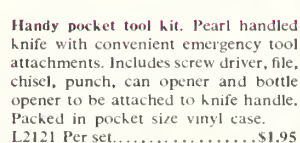
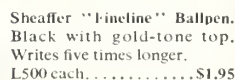
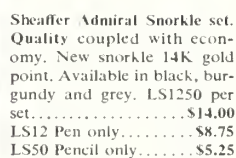
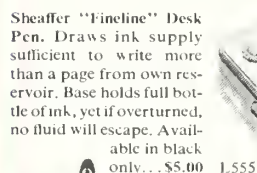
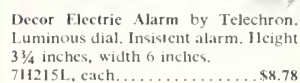
"Laugh once for the fellas . . . will ya, Pop?"

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